

Mapping Sustainability Pathways for the Lower Kafue Basin Multi-Stakeholder Platform



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1.0 Background and objectives

1.1 Background to the workshop

This report presents a synthesis of the Multistakeholder Platform proceedings from the workshop convened on the 28th of October 2025 at the Urban Hotel in Lusaka, supported by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in collaboration with WorldFish under the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Science Program. The one-day workshop of the Lower Kafue Basin Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP), held under the theme “*Mapping Sustainability Pathways for the MSP*,” provided an interactive forum for stakeholders to reflect on the progress of the MSP and to co-design sustainability pathways for ongoing and future platform activities within the basin.

The Lower Kafue Basin MSP was established in 2023 as a coordination mechanism to foster dialogue and joint action among stakeholders drawn from across sectors, administrative and customary boundaries in the Lower Kafue Sub-basin. The MSP uses a water-food-energy-environment nexus lens to resolve development challenges. In 2025, the MSP transitioned from the Aquatic Foods Initiative into the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Science Program. The SAAF program, which promotes sustainable aquatic and animal food systems to enhance landscape management and livelihoods, aligns with Zambia’s national priorities for integrated landscape management and sustainable natural resource use under Pillar 3 of the Eighth National Development Plan (8NDP). The Lower Kafue MSP and SAAF priority areas are relevant in the context of competing land uses, increasing socio-economic pressures, and the impacts of climate change in the Lower Kafue Basin.

This workshop, attended by 55 stakeholders, built on the successes of previous MSP engagements and advanced discussions toward defining practical steps to institutionalise the MSP platform as a long-term governance and learning mechanism for sustainable water, land, and forest management. **Annex I** provides a detailed MSP workshop program.

1.2 Purpose of the workshop

The main purpose of the MSP workshop was to identify practical steps to ensure the long-term sustainability of the platform’s activities beyond the current IWMI funding window under the SAAF Program. This is in response to the broader funding environment context as well as the need to ensure increased local ownership of the MSP. Stakeholders discussed strengthening the strategic and operational framework of the MSP to enhance its functionality, coordination, and relevance at the basin level. The workshop generated actionable insights on institutional anchoring, resource mobilization, and stakeholder engagement mechanisms aimed at positioning the MSP as a self-sustaining, inclusive, and adaptive platform for integrated resource governance in the Lower Kafue Basin.

Specifically, the meeting sought to:

- (1) Review the performance and progress of the Lower Kafue Basin MSP since its last meeting, where alignment with the SAAF program was discussed.
- (2) Facilitate collective reflection on what has worked well and what challenges persist in operationalising the MSP.
- (3) Map key opportunities for sustainability, focusing on governance, financing, institutional linkages, and community engagement.
- (4) Co-design actionable pathways for sustainability, including putting in place a sub-committee that would spearhead exploring actions to achieve MSP Sustainability.

2.0 Workshop Structure

2.1 Participants

The workshop was attended by 58 participants representing a broad spectrum of institutions and stakeholder groups (Fig1). These included traditional leaders and local community members, some from Community Resource Boards (CRBs), women’s groups, government institutions, civil society organizations, private sector entities, the media and non-governmental organizations. A detailed list of stakeholders is provided in **Annex II**.

The meeting began by participants introductions conducted in an engaging and participatory atmosphere. Each participant was invited to briefly introduce themselves and indicate their institutional affiliation. The exercise enabled both five new and 53 returning MSP members to connect more meaningfully, reinforcing the platform’s culture of inclusivity and collaboration. The meeting drew 18 females and 40 males.



Figure1: Distribution of stakeholders based on sector representations

2.2 Overview of workshop sessions and key themes

The workshop was structured into four main sessions. The morning session commenced with welcome remarks from representatives of WorldFish, followed by an address from His Royal Highness, Chief Professor Nalubamba, on behalf of traditional leaders, and an overview of the workshop objectives by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI). This was followed by a series of technical presentations providing an overview of the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Programme in Zambia and its alignment with the objectives of the Lower Kafue Basin Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP).

The second session comprised breakout discussions within working groups, focusing on reviewing MSP progress, identifying challenges and opportunities, capturing key lessons, and co-developing strategies to enhance the platform’s long-term sustainability. The third session, themed “*Marketplace*,” explored the role of private sector actors in supporting the MSP’s long-term sustainability and fostering inclusive resource governance in the basin. The concluding session centred on charting

the way forward, including a recap of the sustainability concept and the selection of members for a Sustainability Sub-Committee mandated to guide the development of actionable steps toward a self-sustaining MSP.

3.0 Summary of workshop proceedings

3.1 Session 1: Opening session and welcoming remarks

The meeting commenced at 08:15 hours with arrival, registration, and a networking session coordinated by Ms. Winnie Kasoma-Pele (IWMI), Mr. Agrey Wapamesa (IWMI) and Dr. Freddie Siangulube (IWMI Consultant), providing participants with an opportunity to reconnect and establish rapport ahead of the formal proceedings.

Mr. Dalitso Njovu, Director of Program, who led the stakeholder introductions, had set an engaging atmosphere for the workshop by encouraging stakeholders to actively participate in the dialogue. In a moment of distinction, Ms. Chipo Twasi from the Department of Chief Affairs formally invited the two traditional leaders, representatives of Her Royal Highness of Muwezwa Chieftdom and His Royal Highness, Professor Chief Nalubamba, to introduce themselves, underscoring the vital role of traditional authority within the MSP framework. The workshop was further enriched by the active participation of private sector representatives, notably Zambia Sugar Company, whose engagement highlighted the growing importance of cross-sector collaboration in advancing sustainable aquatic and animal food systems.

Formal welcome remarks were delivered by Dr. Netsayi Noris Mudege from, (WorldFish), followed by opening remarks from His Royal Highness, Professor Nalubamba. Thereafter, Dr. Everisto Mapedza (IWMI) delivered a presentation on MSP sustainability and the main focus of the workshop, followed by Dr. Mwansa Songe (University of Zambia), who presented the inception report for the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Scoping Zambia project, which is being led by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). A synopsis of the presentations is provided in the following sections.



Plate 1: Presenters at the MSP Workshop. Dr Netsayi Mudege presenting opening remarks (L) and Mr Wesley Litaba (R)

3.1.1 Welcoming remarks to the workshop

Dr. Netsayi Noris Mudege welcomed stakeholders to the Lower Kafue Basin MSP workshop and acknowledged the diversity of participants, including representatives from government agencies, social welfare, traditional leadership, fisher communities, and NGOs. She noted that this diversity “represents an entire ecosystem of resources and skills essential for managing the complex challenges of the Lower Kafue Basin.”

Dr. Mudege reiterated that the challenges facing the Kafue basin are too complex to be addressed through single-sector approaches. She emphasized the need for collective action, shared intelligence, and the pooling of resources and expertise. She reminded stakeholders that the workshop was intended to provide a safe and collaborative space for sharing ideas and co-developing solutions to common challenges. She further underscored the strategic importance of the Kafue Basin to Zambia, highlighting that approximately 50% of the country’s population resides within the basin. In her concluding remarks, Dr. Mudege cautioned that poor management of the Kafue basin would endanger vital natural resources and services, and she called upon the MSP to play a proactive role in promoting its sustainable management.



Plate 2: Dr Everisto Mapedza (IWMI) delivering the opening presentation on the objectives of the workshop

3.1.2 Opening remarks by His Royal Highness

His Royal Highness of the Ila people, Itzhi-tezhi District, Professor Nalubamba, opened his remarks by acknowledging the presence of stakeholders from diverse sectors and institutions. In an eloquent expression of identity, he described himself as hailing from the “*people of the animal*,” a reference to livestock farmers, thereby underscoring the deep cultural and economic connection between local communities and the livestock systems of the Lower Kafue Basin.

He emphasized the Lower Kafue Basin’s critical role in sustaining livelihoods through its provision of essential ecosystem services, water resources, and livestock production. His Royal Highness reaffirmed his Chiefdom’s full commitment to supporting interventions aimed at safeguarding the ecological integrity of the Basin, recognizing this as fundamental to the

well-being of the people who depend on it. Further, he highlighted the significance of the MSP as a unifying framework for fostering collaboration among various actors. He noted that traditional leadership continues to play an integral role in articulating community aspirations and ensuring that these are aligned with the MSP's core principles of collective action, inclusivity, and shared responsibility in achieving sustainable landscape management.



Plate 3: Prof. Chief Nalubamba welcomes the workshop stakeholders

3.1.3 Sustainability and MSP functions in the Basin

Dr. Everisto Mapedza (IWMI) presented on “*Mapping Sustainability Pathways for the MSP,*” framing sustainability within the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Program and CGIAR’s broader research agenda (see Annex 3). He reiterated that SAAF seeks to transform animal and aquatic food systems to be inclusive, low-emission, and nutrition-sensitive, and noted that the broader CGIAR programs operate through eight science programmes, three accelerators, and focusing on five impact areas (nutrition, poverty reduction, gender, climate, and environment), supported by strategic assets such as genebanks, infrastructure, and knowledge networks. He also highlighted the integration of MSP activities with CGIAR initiatives including *Livestock and Climate, Sustainable Animal Productivity, One Health, and Resilient Aquatic Foods.*

Dr. Mapedza emphasised the role of MSPs as “critical spaces for dialogue, trust-building, equitable participation and shared learning”, noting that MSPs help address power imbalances and ensure that marginalised voices are heard in decision-making. His presentation also reflected on progress to date —the deployment of catalytic grants, strengthened intersectoral collaboration, and enhanced communication outputs— and drew attention to emerging lessons on gender inclusion and the need to reinforce sustainability measures.

In addressing sustainability, he highlighted the changing global funding landscape and emphasised the need for a shift toward locally driven resource mobilisation, improved MSP governance and adaptive management with clear impact measurement. He set out key considerations for MSP sustainability: broad stakeholder engagement, transparent governance arrangements, capacity building, impact monitoring, and long-term strategic planning. In concluding the presentation, he framed the workshop objectives as mapping practical sustainability pathways for the MSP, identifying strategic partners, and agreeing on actionable steps and timelines to transition the platform into a self-sustaining, inclusive, and adaptive mechanism for integrated resource governance in the Lower Kafue Basin.



Plate 3: Part of the MSP stakeholder audience during the workshop

3.1.4 SAAF Scoping Inception Report on Zambia

Dr. Mwansa Songe, a livestock and animal health expert from the University of Zambia, virtually presented the inception report for the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Scoping Zambia Project on behalf of the ILRI team. She informed stakeholders that the inception report aims to identify priority areas for research and development to enhance the productivity, resilience, and sustainability of dual-purpose aquatic–livestock systems in the Lower Kafue Basin.

In her presentation, Dr. Songe highlighted key challenges affecting these systems, including limited feed availability and quality, animal health constraints, suboptimal breeding practices, and the growing impacts of climate change. She emphasized the need for an integrated approach to addressing these challenges to strengthen aquatic–livestock-based livelihoods and promote sustainable food systems in the basin. Dr. Songe explained that the main study will adopt a value chain approach, combining desk reviews, key informant interviews, and stakeholder consultations to identify opportunities for coordinated research and development. Following her presentation, stakeholders engaged in discussions and recommended that the study build on existing initiatives and lessons from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to ensure alignment, complementarity, and efficiency in implementation.

In conclusion, Dr. Songe noted that the inception report will serve as the foundation for the interim and final reports, which will provide actionable recommendations. The anticipated outcomes include a clearer understanding of the constraints and opportunities within dual-purpose cattle systems, strengthened stakeholder collaboration, and evidence-based guidance to inform future research, policy, and investment in sustainable food systems across the Lower Kafue Basin.

3.2 Session 2: Reflection and learning, and co-designing sustainability pathways

Facilitated by Dr. Arthur Jere, the three working groups convened separately to reflect on key challenges and opportunities and to propose sustainable pathways for MSP sustainability. The following subsections present the key highlights, findings, and recommendations emerging from each working group’s deliberations.

3.2.1 Alternative Livelihoods Working Group – Key findings and discussion

The Alternative Livelihoods Working Group reviewed ongoing efforts, existing gaps, and opportunities for leveraging additional funding partnerships to advance sustainable livelihoods in the Lower Kafue Basin. While the MSP has made progress in raising community awareness on sustainable livelihood options, the group noted that tangible improvements in local livelihoods remain limited. Over the past two years, most MSP activities have focused on profiling community contexts and identifying potential areas for intervention as preparatory steps toward implementing concrete livelihood programs.

Two key concerns emerged during the discussions—harmonization of the regulatory framework and governance challenges:

- *Regulatory harmonization:* Persistent tension exists between community livelihood needs and regulatory compliance, particularly among fishing communities. Weak institutional linkages between fisheries management structures and local villages, coupled with limited oversight from traditional leaders and government agencies, have led to unregulated resource use. Fragmented legislation across the water, fisheries, forestry, and wildlife sectors continues to hinder coordinated management and enforcement.
- *Governance challenges:* Participants observed the erosion of traditional practices that once guided sustainable resource use. Strengthening traditional leadership structures and empowering community-based monitoring systems were identified as critical strategies for enhancing compliance, accountability, and stewardship in natural resource management.

(i) Opportunities Identified

With the foregoing, the working group highlighted several viable livelihood diversification opportunities for developing a sustainability strategy and developing funding proposals. These include:

- Horticulture and non-timber forest products development (fruits, mushrooms, and honey);
- Women and youth empowerment through beekeeping and small livestock rearing (goats and poultry) with local value addition;
- Cage fish farming and basketry; and
- Water and sanitation initiatives at the community level.

(ii) Action points and way forward

The group underscored the need to institutionalize the MSP as a permanent governance mechanism for sustained coordination and action through formal registration as a not-for-profit organisation. This includes formal registration, establishment of administrative and financial systems, and clearer definition of roles and responsibilities. Strengthening institutional collaboration, empowering local communities, and harmonizing policy frameworks were identified as critical next steps toward development of programme proposals for promoting sustainable alternative livelihoods and inclusive resource governance in the Lower Kafue Basin.



Plate 4: Brainstorm session for the WG during the workshop

3.2.2 Conservation and Management Working Group – Key findings and discussion

The Conservation and Management Working Group reviewed ecological information and socio-economic survey data on major environmental challenges, particularly the proliferation of aquatic invasive species such as clay fish, water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), otter (*Katumbi*), *Mimosa*, and *Typha*. While these assessments have deepened understanding of ecosystem dynamics, stakeholders acknowledged that limited on-the-ground interventions have been implemented to address these issues, resulting in minimal tangible impact on the people affected by the environmental changes in the basin.

Collaboration among stakeholders has improved, particularly in data sharing and coordination, which has supported localized conservation actions. For example, the Knowledge and Information working Group has used various media platforms and local radio stations to share information on MSP activities. Traditional leaders—especially village headmen—have remained active since the program’s inception, demonstrating the importance of community leadership in promoting sustainable resource use. However, enforcement of existing natural resource and land-use practices remains weak, largely due to insufficient data linking conservation and local needs, especially in fishing camps and villages. Such gaps remain important and an opportunity to develop concept notes for partner funding consideration.



(i) Opportunities Identified

The group identified several opportunities for advancing conservation and management goals in the Lower Kafue Basin, particularly through initiatives that link ecosystem restoration with livelihood improvement:

- Strengthening partnerships among stakeholders to coordinate conservation actions and share technical expertise;
- Promoting home-grown community initiatives that encourage local stewardship and accountability;
- Exploring controlled harvesting and sale of clay fish as a potential economic opportunity that also mitigates ecological impacts;
- Expanding fish farming as an alternative livelihood to ease pressure on natural fisheries; and
- Developing an integrated landscape management plan to guide coordinated interventions and attract funding support for long-term conservation.

These opportunities were recognized as key entry points for developing proposals and mobilizing funding to sustain conservation efforts beyond project cycles.

(ii) Action Points and Recommendations

To advance conservation and management outcomes, the group recommended the following actions:

- Strengthen enforcement mechanisms and improve institutional coordination across government and community structures;
- Mobilize adequate funding and technical support for invasive species control and landscape restoration;
- Increase community awareness and participation in natural resource management beyond fishing camps and villages;
- Empower traditional governance systems to complement statutory enforcement and embed conservation values at the local level; and
- Develop and operationalize an integrated landscape management plan for the Lower Kafue Basin as a framework for coordinated action and resource mobilization.

2.3.3 Communication and Knowledge Working Group – Key findings and discussion

The Communication and Knowledge Working Group reviewed progress and explored opportunities for positioning communication and knowledge management as central pillars of MSP sustainability. The group noted that effective communication is not only essential for awareness-raising but also for mobilizing partnerships, influencing policy, and attracting investment to sustain MSP activities in the Lower Kafue Basin.

An initial USD 20,000 catalytic grant supported foundational activities to enhance MSP visibility and stakeholder engagement. Planned initiatives, such as radio and television awareness campaigns, school outreach programs, community focus group meetings, and market linkages, were designed to strengthen the MSP's presence across multiple stakeholder levels. It could be noted that the MSP achieved significant milestones by deepening stakeholder engagement through the inclusion of traditional leaders, farmers, and community committees in basin-wide dialogues. The platform sees more opportunities for seeking partner funding around raising awareness on water-use issues involving private sector actors like Zambia Sugar, promoting mutual accountability and shared responsibility for resource governance.



Plate 6: Roundtable WG discussion on the sustainability strategies

(i) Opportunities Identified

- *Developing a Basin-wide Communication and Knowledge Hub* to coordinate stakeholder information, generate evidence for decision-making, and disseminate lessons learned;
- Leveraging media partnerships (e.g., Zambia Daily Mail, Zambia Agricultural Information Services, Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation) to expand outreach and attract sponsorships or co-financing arrangements;
- *Strengthening digital presence* through regular updates and interactive platforms (<https://lowerkafuebasinmsp.org/>, Facebook, community WhatsApp groups) to maintain visibility and donor engagement;
- *Building local communication capacity* by training “community gatekeepers” to act as focal points for behaviour change and awareness creation; and
- *Packaging communication products* such as newsletters, policy briefs, and short documentaries—targeted at potential funders and development partners to showcase MSP achievements and investment opportunities.

(ii) Action Points

- Develop a comprehensive MSP Communication and Resource Mobilization Strategy linking awareness campaigns to fundraising and partnership-building objectives;
- To embed communication in the Institutionalized MSP to coordinate cross-sector communication, reporting, and donor relations;
- Build the capacity of local champions and media partners to produce high-quality content that supports investment proposals; and
- Position communication as a cross-cutting enabler for all MSP activities, driving visibility, credibility, and long-term financial sustainability.

3.2.4 Link to MSP Sustainability

The discussions held within the three thematic working groups—Alternative Livelihoods, Conservation and Management, and Communication and Knowledge—collectively underscored the integral role of the MSP in fostering sustainable governance of the Lower Kafue Basin. Each group explored how its thematic focus contributes to strengthening the MSP as a collaborative, inclusive, and adaptive mechanism for long-term landscape management. The insights generated reflect the

interconnected nature of livelihoods, conservation, and communication in shaping a resilient and self-sustaining platform. Table 1 below summarizes how the outcomes of the working group deliberations align with and reinforce the broader MSP sustainability agenda.



Plate 7: Contributions from different stakeholders during the plenary session on MSP sustainability

Table 1: Summary of MSP actions that can be used to develop project themes for sustainability

Working Group	Contribution to MSP Sustainability
<i>Alternative Livelihoods Working Group</i>	Emphasizing the need for diversified, community-driven economic pathways that reduce pressure on natural resources. Strengthening livelihoods such as horticulture, beekeeping, aquaculture, and small livestock production enhances income, food security, and ecosystem resilience. The group’s call to institutionalize the MSP, clarify policy roles, and empower traditional and community governance structures aligns with the platform’s long-term vision for inclusive and sustainable resource management.
<i>Conservation and Management Working Group</i>	Reinforced the MSP’s role as a collaborative governance mechanism for addressing complex environmental challenges in the Lower Kafue Basin. The group emphasized strengthening traditional leadership, improving enforcement of existing laws, and promoting integrated landscape planning as key to sustaining ecological integrity and community resilience. These measures advance the MSP’s sustainability vision of fostering inclusive, evidence-based, and locally led approaches for managing water, land, and forest resources.
<i>Communication and Knowledge Working Group</i>	The Communication and Knowledge Working Group underscored that effective communication and knowledge sharing are central to MSP sustainability. By improving visibility, strengthening trust, and facilitating continuous information exchange, the MSP can maintain stakeholder engagement and attract strategic partnerships. Building capacity for local communicators, developing consistent messaging, and strengthening media and digital outreach are essential for scaling awareness, accountability, and adaptive management across the Lower Kafue Basin.

Source: Workshop discussions from the Lower Kafue Basin Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) held on 28th October 2025, Lusaka. The table summarizes the key linkages between the thematic working groups and the overall MSP sustainability agenda under the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF) Program.

3.3 Session III: Marketplace and private sector engagement in sustainability plans

The “Marketplace Session,” facilitated by Mr. Wesley Litaba, provided a platform to showcase private sector innovations and initiatives with the potential to contribute to the long-term sustainability of the MSP. The discussion emphasized that the Lower Kafue Basin holds significant untapped potential for non-timber forest products (NTFPs) such as honey, wild fruits, and mushrooms, which are already being commercially exploited by various large- and medium-scale enterprises.

Mr. Litaba highlighted that this presents an important opportunity for the MSP to strengthen collaboration with the private sector in several ways:

1. *Building local capacity*—particularly among women and youth—to participate in sustainable natural resource-based enterprises;
2. *Promoting value chain development* by encouraging companies to invest in local processing and value addition at the community level to ensure that livelihoods derived from natural resources are sustainable;
3. Attracting investment in processing and storage infrastructure (such as refrigeration facilities) to reduce the export of raw products, including fish, and to enhance the economic value retained within the basin; and
4. *Positioning the MSP as a knowledge and coordination hub* through which the private sector can actively engage in water, forestry, fisheries, and livestock initiatives.

The session also raised several important suggestions and follow-up actions. Participants agreed on the need to conduct a comprehensive mapping of private sector actors operating or sourcing resources within the basin to identify potential partners for collaboration and co-investment. It was further noted that *Zambian Breweries Limited*, though not represented

at the workshop, should be approached to explore potential support for MSP initiatives through their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs, given their strong interest in sustainable water management within the Lower Kafue. In a similar vein, Zambia Sugar Company expressed willingness to further engage with the MSP and explore areas of mutual interest for collaboration and shared value creation.

4.0 Observations of stakeholder engagement during the workshop

The workshop was characterized by highly interactive and participatory discussions across all sessions. Facilitators—Mr. Dalitso Njovu, Dr. Freddie Siangulube, and Dr. Everisto Mapedza—ensured equitable participation and inclusivity throughout the proceedings. Moderators in both the Working Group and plenary sessions actively promoted balanced engagement, enabling participants from various backgrounds to contribute meaningfully.

A notable improvement was observed in the use of local languages during Working Group discussions. Two of the three groups conducted sessions using a mix of English, Tonga, and Nyanja, which enhanced inclusivity and encouraged participants to express themselves more freely. This multilingual approach reflects growing confidence among stakeholders and demonstrates how the MSP has evolved into a more participatory and accessible platform for dialogue.

Another key observation was the constructive role of traditional leaders in guiding discussions. Their contributions helped ground deliberations in the local context and cultural understanding, while their presence did not inhibit participation. Instead, participants—both community members and institutional representatives—engaged openly and respectfully, highlighting improved dynamics between traditional authorities and other stakeholders.



Plate 8: Listening to the traditional leaders during the sustainability session

As noted in previous reporting cycles, female participation in the MSP process remains relatively low, currently below half of the total number of stakeholders. While the MSP organisers continue to encourage greater representation of women and youth, particularly from local communities, the overall composition of the MSP remains largely influenced by institutional mandates. Gender and demographic balance remain important considerations; however, decision-making within the MSP continues to be guided by consensus-based processes that value inclusivity and collective ownership among participating institutions.

5.0 Selection of the Sub-committee on MSP Sustainability: Plan of action and next steps

5.1 General proceedings

In the final session, Dr. Freddie Siangulube facilitated the process of selecting members to form the MSP Sustainability Sub-Committee, which will spearhead the development and implementation of the MSP sustainability plan. He emphasized that all stakeholders possess the capacity and responsibility to contribute to this important process but noted the need to establish a smaller, representative team to provide focused leadership and coordination.

Stakeholders agreed that nominations would be conducted through the respective Working Groups, allowing participants to freely propose names. The IWMI Secretariat guided this process and ensured inclusivity and transparency in the selection. Following the breakout sessions, 15 members were nominated and confirmed to serve on the MSP Sustainability Sub-Committee (see Annex 4 for the list of members).

5.2 Outcomes

As a next step, the MSP agreed upon the three main actions: First, the newly constituted Sub-Committee was given a 45-day timeline to develop and share draft sustainability strategies through the MSP WhatsApp group. These strategies will be consolidated into a draft report to be submitted to the wider MSP members for review. The report will subsequently be presented at the next MSP meeting, preferably held virtually for discussion, further refinement, and adoption as a collective roadmap for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the MSP and its activities within the Lower Kafue Basin.

Second, the Consultant, Freddie Siangulube would lead the process of contacting the private sector engagement on sustainability of the MSP initiative. These would include Zambia Sugar Company, Zambia Breweries and Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation. The members of the sustainability sub-committee will be part of the process to help discuss with the private sector. The timelines are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Timeline for implementing outcomes

Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Output
<i>Develop draft sustainability strategies</i>	Sustainability Sub-Committee	Within 45 days	Draft strategies shared via MSP WhatsApp group
<i>Consolidate submissions into draft report</i>	Consultant (Freddie Siangulube)	Immediately after receiving submissions	Consolidated draft report submitted to MSP members
<i>Review and input on draft report</i>	MSP Members (via Whatsap Groups)	2 weeks after submission	Reviewed draft with consolidated comments
<i>Present the report at the next MSP meeting (preferably virtual)</i>	MSP Secretariat composed of WG leads	Next scheduled MSP meeting	Discussed, refined, and adopted sustainability roadmap
<i>Engage the private sector (Zambia Sugar, Zambia Breweries, ZESCO)</i>	Consultant & Sustainability Sub-Committee	Concurrent with the drafting period	Engagement notes and commitments towards MSP sustainability

<i>Finalise sustainability roadmap</i>	Consultant, Sub-Committee & IWMI	After MSP meeting	Final MSP Sustainability Roadmap
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The formation of the MSP Sustainability Sub-Committee marks a pivotal step toward institutionalizing the platform as a long-term governance and coordination mechanism. By entrusting a dedicated team with the responsibility of developing actionable strategies, the MSP has laid the groundwork for structured planning, resource mobilization, and stakeholder accountability. The Sub-Committee’s work is expected to provide a clear roadmap for sustaining MSP activities beyond project-based support, thereby reinforcing the platform’s vision of a self-sustaining, inclusive, and adaptive framework for integrated landscape management in the Lower Kafue Basin.

6.0 Take-away message from the MSP Workshop

The seventh post-launch workshop of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) for the Lower Kafue Basin marked a pivotal milestone in the platform’s evolution, as it began to define concrete sustainability strategies aimed at enabling the MSP to operate independently and strengthen its long-term presence in the basin.

Discussions highlighted a recurring challenge observed in many well-intentioned initiatives—where promising programs have failed to endure beyond their initial funding cycles. In contrast, MSP members expressed a shared commitment to ensuring that the platform not only survives but continues to thrive beyond the current funding window. The integration of the MSP with the Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Food Systems (SAAF) Program was recognized as a strategic opportunity to attract additional partners, including local actors, to support and co-finance its ongoing activities.

A central message emerging from the workshop was the need to strengthen coordination, institutionalize collaboration, and invest in community-led innovations as key pillars for sustaining the MSP and advancing inclusive, climate-resilient landscape and food systems governance in the Lower Kafue Basin. The workshop concluded with a strong sense of optimism and shared responsibility among stakeholders. Participants reaffirmed their collective commitment to sustaining the MSP as a unifying platform for dialogue, learning, and action in the Lower Kafue Basin. The discussions and decisions reached reflect a growing sense of ownership and the recognition that only through continuous collaboration, innovation, and inclusive participation can the Lower Kafue basin’s natural resources be managed sustainably for present and future generations.

7.0 Closing Remarks

On behalf of the traditional leadership and local communities, the representative of Chieftainess Muwezwa delivered the closing remarks and expressed appreciation to all participants for their active engagement and commitment throughout the workshop. He encouraged stakeholders to move forward with determination and ensure that the workshop resolutions are effectively implemented for the betterment of the Lower Kafue Basin—enhancing resource conservation, improving local livelihoods, and safeguarding the integrity of the basin’s ecosystems.

The meeting was officially closed at 16:45 hours.

Annex 1: Workshop agenda

**INTERNATIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (IWMI–CGIAR)
SUSTAINABLE ANIMAL AND AQUATIC FOODS (SAAF) SCIENCE PROGRAM
LOWER KAFUE BASIN MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM (MSP)**

Theme: Mapping Sustainability Pathways for the MSP

Date: 28th October 2025

Venue: Urban Hotel, Lusaka

Time	Activity	Facilitator/Lead
08:00 – 08:30	Arrival and Registration	IWMI Secretariat
08:30 – 09:00	Opening Session: Welcome and Introductions	Director of Ceremonies- Mr Daliso Njovu
09:00 – 09:15	Opening Remarks	Dr Netsayi Mudege, WorldFish
09:15 – 09:30	Remarks from the Traditional Leader	HRH Nalubamba
09:30 – 09:45	Objectives of the Workshop and Expected Outcomes: Models of Sustainability for MSPs	Dr Everisto Mapedza- IWMI
09:45-10:00	SAAF Zambia Inception Report	Dr Mwansa Songe, Livestock Expert from the University of Zambia
10:15 – 10:30	Tea / Coffee Break	
Interactive Session I: Reflection and Learning		
10:30 – 11:15	Dialogue: “What’s Working, What’s Not?” – Reflections from Stakeholders	Facilitated by Working Group Leads
11:15 – 12:15	Group Exercise: Mapping Key Opportunities in the Lower Kafue Basin for MSP sustainability. Participants divided into thematic groups (Policy, Market Systems, Environment, Livelihoods)	Dr. Arthur Jere Ms. Twasi Mr. Nawa Mr. Mbindo
12:15 – 12:45	Plenary: Sharing Group Insights	Group Rapporteurs
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch Break	
Interactive Session II: Co-Designing Sustainability Pathways		
14:00 – 15:30	Participatory Planning Session: “Charting the Way Forward” – Identifying Joint Actions and Responsibilities	Dr Freddie Siangulube
Interactive Session III: Marketplace and Next Steps		
15:30 – 16:00	Marketplace Session: Role of Private `sector involvement in MSP Sustainability: Initiatives and Innovations (identify key private sectors) (Working tea Break)	Mr. Wesley Litaba
16:00 – 16:20	Synthesis and Way Forward: Aligning MSP Priorities	Dr. Everisto Mapedza
16:20 – 16:30	Closing Remarks	Dr. Everisto Mapedza
	End of Programme	

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Annex 3: Slides from presentations during MSP workshop

Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF): MSP Workshop

Mapping Sustainability Pathways for the MSP

WELCOME TO YOU ALL
28 October 2023
The Urban Hotel, Lusaka

1

CGIAR Portfolio 2015-2030
Transforming Food, Land, and Water Systems to 2030

Five Impact Areas:

- Food Systems and Safety
- Policy Enablers
- Climate Action
- Rural Income
- Resilient Livelihoods

- 8 Science programs
- 1 Scaling program (for impact with partners)
- 3 Accelerators
- 5 Impact Areas (Nutrition, Poverty Reduction, Gender, Climate and Environment)
- Assets: Genebanks, Knowledge, Infrastructure ...

2

Our Journey: 23 October 2023 to 28 October 2023

3

The Science Program's approach

- Co-creation of solutions and innovations
- Evidence-based practices,
- Bundled technologies and digital tools,
- Institutional and policy solutions,
- Business models that are efficient and advance the transformation of food, land, and water systems.
- Better target – countries, regions, production systems, and commodities,

4

Sustainable Animal and Aquatic Foods (SAAF)

Mission: People's lives and well-being in low and middle-income countries are improved by transforming animal and aquatic food systems to be more inclusive, sustainable, healthy and nutritious.

Outcomes:

- Develop transition activities and a vision
- Secure resources
- Improve policy/regulatory and governance systems
- Build practical and operational and economic and social, mental, physical, education of animals and low-emissions, innovations

Key Challenges to Address:

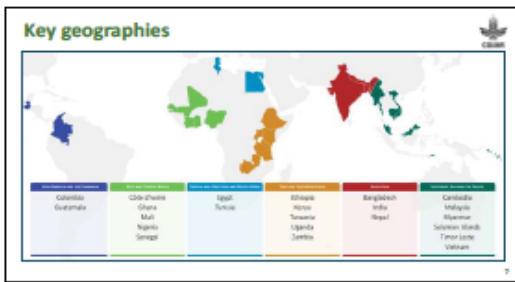
- 1. Limited access to land and water resources
- 2. Limited access to credit and financial services
- 3. Limited access to markets and value chains
- 4. Limited access to knowledge and information
- 5. Limited access to services and infrastructure
- 6. Limited access to labor and human resources
- 7. Limited access to technology and innovation
- 8. Limited access to policy and regulatory frameworks
- 9. Limited access to climate and environmental services
- 10. Limited access to animal and aquatic health services

5

Areas of Work summary

- Policy and Institutional
- Science and Technology
- Digital and Data
- Market Systems, Policy Solutions and Scaling

6



7

What is a Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP)?

"Purposefully organized interactive processes that bring together stakeholders to participate in dialogue, decision-making and/or implementation regarding actions seeking to address a problem they hold in common or to achieve a goal for their common benefit." (Jantzi et al., 2020)

Fundamental principles of MSPs:

- Improving and elevating the voices of marginalized groups
- Building trust by helping actors understand others' perspectives and the value of meaningful, equitable collaboration
- Supporting conflict resolution
- Fostering social learning through self-assessment and reflection.

MSPs have the potential to become a space where participants can begin to address questions of power, equity and buy-in.

8

MSP Achievements so far?

- Informative baseline study
- 7th post-launch workshop
- Set up an MSP - Nexus Lens - rethinking how we think about development
- Promoted cross and intersectoral collaboration -
- Utilization of the catalytic grant - total USD60,000 for 3 WCs
- Successful activities conducted
- Reports submitted and communication in print and electronic media
- What are the lessons learnt so far?
- Gender inclusion lessons
- Finalizing and editing of the reports
- How to address sustainability concerns?

9

Why Sustainability Matters?

- Global funding context is changing
- General reduction in development funding
- Opportunity to explore local resources - analogy of falling into a pit.
- How do we explore other funding opportunities?
- 2025 - ended up having 2 meetings - instead of the usual 4.

10

MSP Sustainability Considerations

- Diverse stakeholder engagement - no one is left behind, valued with a voice
- Clear Objectives and Purpose - the glue that binds us together. These need to be updated as we go along
- Effective governance structure - transparent and accountable
- Resource mobilization - sustainable funding mechanisms, preferable diverse sources of revenue
- Impact Measurement Evaluation and Learning - regular assessment of impact - demonstrate value to members
- Trust building
- Adaptability and resilience - the ability to change to a changing environment

11

MSP Sustainability Considerations

- Capacity Building - investing in the capacity of stakeholders to engage effectively.
- Communication and Outreach - keeping all stakeholders informed and engaged through regular meetings etc
- Long vision and Strategy - owned by all the stakeholders

12

Objectives: Mapping Sustainability Pathways for the MSP

- Reflect on the new global funding
- Map out and plan to approach potential strategic partners
- Step up practical sustainability pathways - ideas and solutions to be discussed in different WCs
- Transition for sustainability and inclusivity of a wider group of stakeholders with a shared vision on sustainably managing the future of the Kafue Basin - SAFF

13

Expected Outcomes of the Meeting

- MSP Sustainability Pathways
- A list of potential strategic partners are identified and documented
- Sustainability options and pathways - with action items and time frames
- Sustainability - Sustainability - Sustainability

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Annex 4: Sub-committee on MSP Sustainability

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