



ZDA Key in Investment, Trade Policy Formulation

Like many other investment and trade agencies around the world, the Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) has a Research, Policy and Planning Division which is specialized in corporate planning, conducting research, policy advocacy and monitoring and evaluation.

The division is comprised of two units which are research, policy and monitoring and evaluation, and corporate planning which work to ensure positioning of the Agency and strategic direction for it to effectively and efficiently contribute to the development agenda of the country in line with the national development plans.

The research and policy unit is responsible for generating evidence based information for the Agency which is used for policy recommendation and development of strategies on issues of trade and investment. In this case, the Agency interacts frequently with private sector which include business associations as well as individual investors and exporters to capture issues that require intervention at operational and policy levels.

Further the Agency through research and policy unit is responsible for the publication of useful information for investors and exporters such as investor guide handbook, product profiles and cost of doing business in Zambia.

In addition, the unit undertakes a Client Satisfaction Survey which is an annual task with the aim of informing the Agency about the levels of satisfaction on the services it offers to its clients and other stakeholders. The findings of the survey and recommendations thereof are used as basis service provision.

In undertaking research activities, the Agency collaborates with other government agencies and international development organisations including Bank of Zambia, Zambia Statistics Agency and Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research among others.

Conversely, the unit also handles the monitoring and evaluation function of the Agency which include assessing the performance the Agency and implementation of investment projects.

In this regard, the unit visits actual projects of the investors to assess their level of project implementation and actualisation of projected investment and jobs and other

commitments including contribution taxes, pension and local business development. In addition, when an investor wants to renew their investment licence, the unit undertakes an assessment and recommend for renewal. In instances where an investor after being monitored is found to be contravening the conditions of the investment licence, the Division initiates recommendation to the Board through Management for the suspension or revocation of the licence.

The M&E exercise also helps the Agency to capture challenges affecting businesses in implementation of projects which are passed on to the Business Development unit for Aftercare.

And finally, the Corporate Planning Unit is tasked with the responsibility of leading the process of developing the strategic plan, Monitoring the execution of Strategic Plans, Leading the process of preparing of the Annual Work-Plan and Budget, Coordinating the preparation of annual, quarterly, monthly & ad hoc reports.

The corporate planning unit is charged with the job of reporting for the Agency by producing the annual report. In addition, the unit is charged leading the process of developing the Agency's Strategic Plans, conducting stakeholder engagements and ensuring the production of ZDA's Annual Work- plans.

In a nutshell, the Division is the Agency's channel for evidence based reporting which enables it to undertake successful investment and trade facilitation, promotion and policy recommendation.

The Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) is Zambia's premier economic development Agency with a multifaceted mandate of promoting and facilitating trade, investment and business development in the country. The Agency is also responsible for building and enhancing the country's investment profile for increased capital inflows, capital formation and employment creation.

For queries or any further information,
Contact the Communications and Public Relations Unit,
Zambia Development Agency,
Nasser Road, Privatisation House,
P.O. Box 30819,
Lusaka.
Email: info@zda.org.zm
Tel: +260 211 220 177