



Data Must Speak: The Zambian Experience with School Profiles

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Zambia - context

- Sub-Saharan African country
- 4,000,000 students
- Largely achieved MDG2 around primary school enrolment
- Over 8,800 primary schools, around 850 secondary schools
- Two ministries in charge of Education – General and Higher
- Education Management Information System (EMIS) within MoGE Directorate of Planning
 - Comprehensive database
 - Data collected annually from schools



Background and rationale for the profiles

- Prior to the *Data Must Speak* initiative the Directorate used to produce profiles as a feedback mechanism but process was discontinued in 2005, original profiles were completely text based and provided no examination or comparative data

Ministry of General Education had identified the need to:

- Promote and improve the usage of data at all levels of education
- Improve evidence-based decision-making, planning & priority setting
- Improve data feedback loops (at School, Community, District & Province levels)
- Enhance community engagement in school management and decision-making



Successes to date

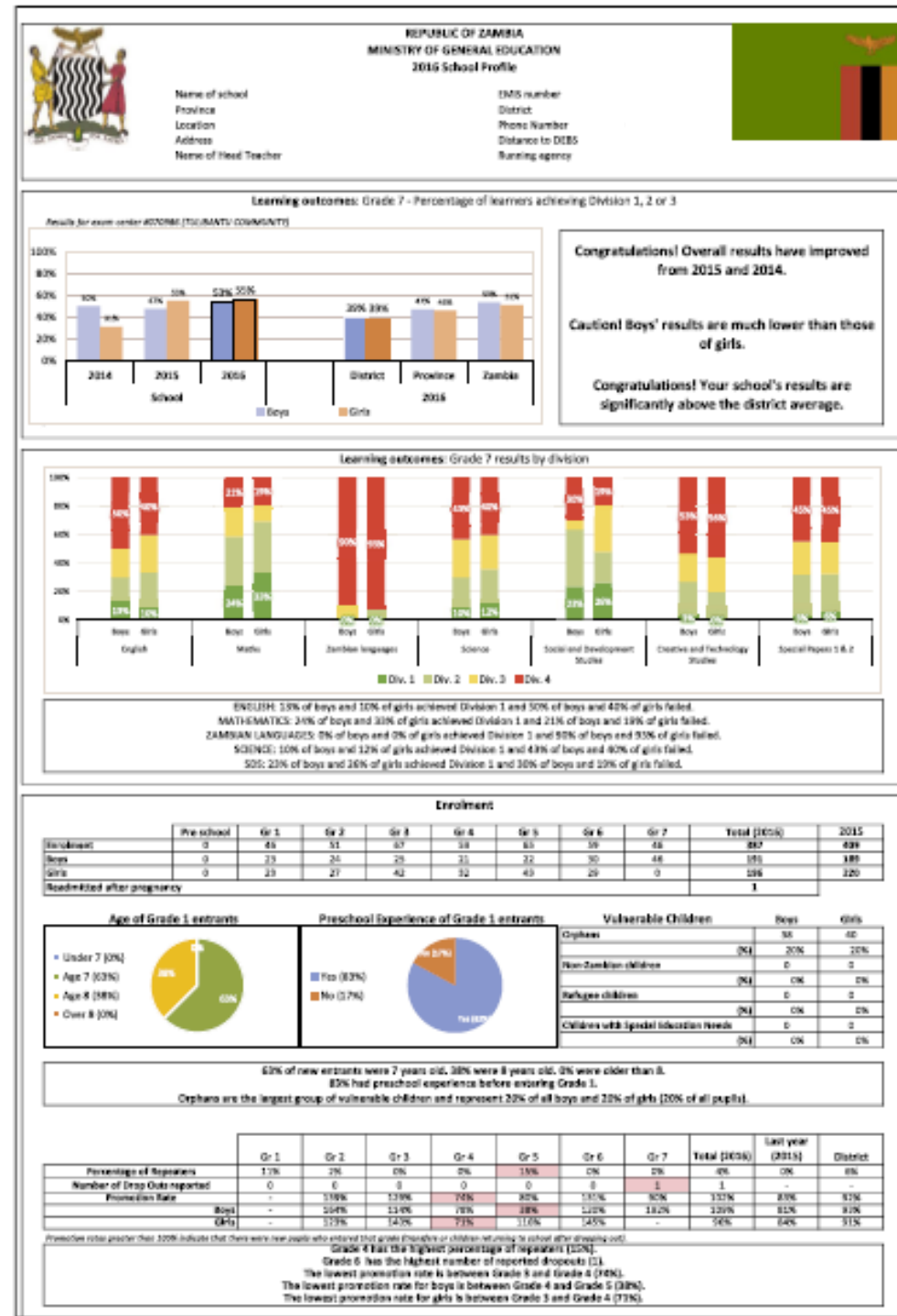
- In 2015 the Ministry in collaboration with UNICEF embarked on the *Data Must Speak* Initiative
- In 2015 school profiles were designed collaboratively with teachers, PTA members, district, provincial, central level Ministry staff
- In 2016 school profiles were printed and distributed to over 8,900 schools
- In 2016-17, province, district and community (simplified) level profiles were developed and produced in addition to updated school profiles



School Profile

- Two page document, A3 in color
- Provides schools with key selected indicators
- Provides feedback from the Annual School Census
- Allows SELF-monitoring for schools
- Allows school management to identify need and priority areas
- Assists schools in the development of School Improvement Plans (SIPs)

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Community Profile

- One page document, A4, multiple copies
- Provides school communities with simplified information
- Provides feedback from the Annual School Census and school examinations
- Allows SELF-monitoring for schools
- Allows low-literacy communities to understand their school in comparison to district averages and over time

Things are improving!	Things are staying the same.	Things are getting worse!

Your school is doing better than others in the district	Your school is doing the same as others in the district	Your school is doing worse than others in the district

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA - MINISTRY OF GENERAL EDUCATION
2016 School Community Profile

Name of school _____
Province _____

324 156	168	Next grade 	2 1
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RESOURCES

Teachers 	Books
Toilets 	Classrooms
Desks 	Desks

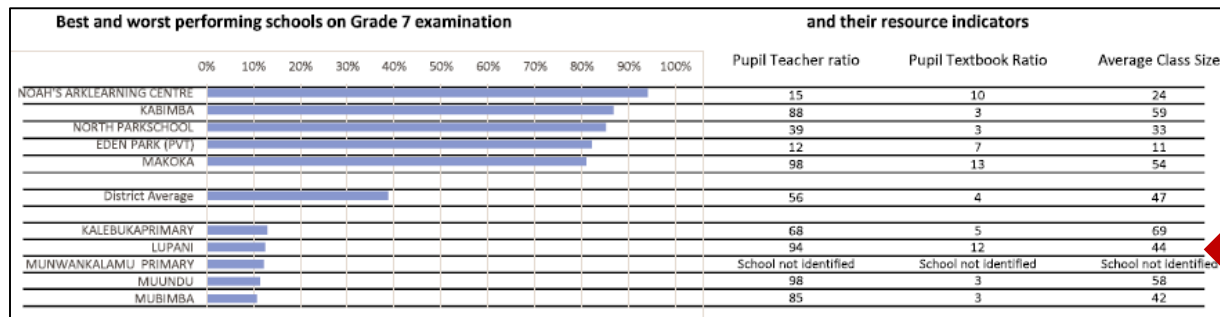
PERFORMANCE

Grade 7 Exam (Div. 1, 2, 3) 	
English 	
Mathematics 	
Zambian language 	
Science 	



Provincial and District Profiles

- Same idea as with the school and community profiles
- Contain selected key Provincial and District Indicators
- At a glance one can have a picture on how the province or District is performing in education delivery
- Shows how well resourced a province or district is e.g. PTR can guide in the allocation and distribution of teachers
- Education staff in 3 out of 10 provinces trained in the interpretation and usage of profile, remaining planned for Q3 2017.



Priority schools listed in order of most pressing needs (in terms of ratios)

Teachers	Textbooks	Classrooms	Toilets	Desks
CHIYABA MANZI PRIMARY SCHOOL	KAYONIE COMMUNITY	CHITANDA LUMAMBA COMMUNITY	CHIYUNI PRIMARY	MABOMBO COMMUNITY
KAMISHISHI PRIMARY	TULIBANTU COMMUNITY	KANTUPU PRIMARY	KANWANIIBA PRIMARY	KABANIE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
KACHENIE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	MUNIILE COMMUNITY SCHOOL	KALUNDU COMMUNITY SCHOOL	MOOMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL	KALUTYANKA COMMUNITY
KALUTYANKA COMMUNITY	NAMALOMBEWE COMMUNITY	ITUMBWE COMMUNITY	MUSHINGASHI PRIMARY SCHOOL	KACHENIE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
KALUNDU COMMUNITY SCHOOL	KASENSA COMMUNITY	MUKALASHI PRIMARY SCHOOL	SHIFWANKULA PRIMARY SCHOOL	KAMISAMBA COMMUNITY
KALOBELU PRIMARY SCHOOL	CHOMBELA PRIMARY	LUWINZA COMMUNITY	MAKOKA PRIMARY	MUTOYO PRIMARY SCHOOL
SHIMUKUNI PRIMARY SCHOOL	KAPILA PRIMARY SCHOOL	EDU SPORT COMMUNITY	NANSWISA PRIMARY SCHOOL	KALUTYANKA COMMUNITY
MBONGOLO COMMUNITY	KABANANA COMMUNITY	LUWIZA COMMUNITY	KAMISHISHI PRIMARY	CHIPWILI COMMUNITY
MABOMBO COMMUNITY	KAPOPOLA PRIMARY	KALALA PRIMARY	MUTESHA PRIMARY SCHOOL	CHITANDA LUMAMBA COMMUNITY
KABANANA COMMUNITY	NKUTIKA COMMUNITY	NAMAKOLONGO PRIMARY SCHOOL	CHITANDA LUMAMBA COMMUNITY	MUNIILE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Extracts from a district profile



Challenges

- Profile printing is expensive
- Distribution to all schools is logistically difficult
- Delayed printing and distribution – data reliability and usability is reduced
- Matching of ECZ and EMIS – not all schools have examination results
- Limited understanding of how the profiles are being used at school level



Next steps and future plans

- Alignment of ECZ and EMIS codes to improve school matching
- Follow-up studies on comprehension and use of profiles
- Community training on profile usage
- Impact evaluation of the DMS community profiles
- Development of profiles for secondary schools
- Further training and capacity-building at all levels

A large group of African school children, mostly girls, are gathered in a grassy field. They are wearing light blue school uniforms. Many of the children are smiling and looking towards the camera. Some children in the foreground are making hand gestures, such as waving or pointing. The background shows a dry, open landscape with some trees and small structures under a bright sky.

Thank you!