



**ZCAS UNIVERSITY**

**ANNUAL RESEARCH REPORT FOR  
2021**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

ZCAS University continues to prioritise research as a key mandate. To achieve this, Management allocates resources such as personnel and finances to research activities and invests in collaborations. Research thematic areas have also been developed and all academic staff are motivated to undertake research - individually and jointly. At institutional level, research is coordinated centrally by the Directorate of Research, Consultancy and Innovation. The Directorate has been responsible for coordinating research throughout the period the ZCAS University and ZCAS have operated under combined management and governance structures. As a result, research activities are reported indivisibly. However, following the separation of the structures effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, the institutions will conduct research separately. Therefore, this is the last report for combined research activities.

In 2021, limited progress in research and consultancy activities was achieved due to the disruptive effects of COVID –19 and sluggish economic growth. Two (2) collaborative research projects continued to be executed, ten (10) publications were made, eleven (11) academic staff were trained and ZMW400,000 allocated in the budget was depleted.

This report summarises research and consultancy activities that were undertaken in 2021. Two research projects were undertaken in collaboration with the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflections (JCTR) and Zambia Institute for Policy and Research (ZIPAR). The report details the joint research activities, publications, consultancy activities, budget utilisation and staff capacity building activities that were implemented in the year under review.

## **2.0 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN**

The Directorate collaborated with Zambia Institute of Policy Analysis and Research and the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflections on two separate research activities.

## **2.1 A Survey to Assess the Uptake of ICT and other interventions on a selected Higher Learning Institutions**

ZCAS University and ZIPAR conducted a survey to assess the uptake of ICT and other interventions on a selected number of Higher Education Institutions. The survey was as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic which started in December 2019 in Wuhan in China and spread around the world. Five universities participated in the survey. The final report is set to be released in 2022.

### **General Objective**

To assess the uptake of ICTs for online learning in institutions of higher learning during the COVID -19 Pandemic.

### **Specific Objectives**

- i. To assess the preparedness of institutions of higher learning to deliver lectures using ICT/Online platforms.
- ii. To assess the preparedness of lecturers to deliver classes using ICT/Online platforms.
- iii. To assess the preparedness of learners to receive lessons using ICT/Online platforms.
- iv. To determine effectiveness of carrying out assessments using online platforms.
- v. To evaluate the challenges faced when delivering lectures using ICT/Online platforms.

**Principal Investigator:** Dr E. C. Lengwe

**Co – Principal Investigator:** Kwesi A. Sakyi (Late)

**School:** ICT

**Funding Institution:** ZCAS University

**Type of Research:** Collaborative

## **2.2 Assessment of Causes and Effects of Unemployment in Zambia**

The ZCAS University and JCTR conducting a study to assess and classify the unemployment situation in Zambia among the youths, determine its effects and also assess how COVID -19 has affected youth unemployment. The study will provide recommendations on where policy interventions to reduce youth unemployment or provide safety nets to unemployed youths should be targeted. The study is expected to be concluded in 2022.

### **General Objective**

To evaluate the causes/effects of unemployment on the economy of Zambia.

### **Specific Objectives**

- i. To identify the types of unemployment in Zambia.
- ii. To identify the causes of unemployment in Zambia.
- iii. To ascertain the magnitude of unemployment in Zambia.
- iv. To assess the socio- economic impact of unemployment on lives of Zambians.
- v. To identify measures being taken by stakeholders in addressing unemployment in Zambia.
- vi. To assess the impact of COVID-19 on the unemployment situation in Zambia.
- vii. To assess, through literature review, best global practices in tackling unemployment.

**Principal Investigator:** David Musona

**Co – Principal Investigator:** Dr. G. K. Mweshi

**School:** Social Sciences

**Funding Institution:** Co – Funded ZCAS University, JCTR and others

**Type of Research:** Collaborative

**Amount/Value:** ZMW1,653,700

### **3.0 PUBLICATIONS IN JOURNALS**

The research and publications activities of both ZCAS – U and ZCAS – PRO during the year under review were guided by four thematic areas, namely:

- i. Public Finance and Governance;
- ii. Business Innovation;
- iii. Information and Communication Technology; and
- iv. Socio – Economic issues.

During the year 2021 the staff published a total of ten publications in reputable international journals (see Appendix 1 below).

## **4.0 CONSULTANCY**

One of the core functions of the Directorate is to provide consultancy services. Consequently, during the year under review ten consultancy bids were submitted of which five were won and five were lost (see Appendix 2 below).

## **5.0 RESEARCH BUDGET**

### **5.1 Revenue**

Despite the sluggish economy and COVID – 19 restrictions, the Directorate earned ZMW200,000 from short courses and consultancy.

### **5.2 Expenses**

The expenditure budget for 2021 was ZMW400,000 of which about 70 percent (ZMW279,000) was utilized mainly on the two research projects described above.

### **5.3 Staff Capacity Building Workshops**

The Directorate in collaboration with ZIPAR conducted a staff training workshop in STATA analysis software on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021. A total of eleven (11) members of staff attended the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to impart hands – on skills and techniques required to fully benefit from the software.

### **5.4 Advocacy Activities**

There were no external advocacy activities undertaken during the year. However, the Directorate conducted several internal advocacy activities intended to encourage staff to do research and publish.

## APPENDIX 1: PUBLICATIONS

1. Kaombe, B., Mukosa, F., Matoka, W., and Mukuma, R. (2021). Challenges and Opportunities of Building Resilient MSMEs in Zambia. *International Journal of Current Science Research and Review*, ISSN: 2581-8341 Volume 04 Issue 10 October 2021 DOI: 10.47191/ijcsrr/V4-i10-08, Impact Factor: 5.825 IJCSRR @ 2021.
2. Kaombe, B., Mukosa, F., Matoka, W., and Mukuma, R. (2021). Creative Destruction – An Inevitable Reality for the Financial Services Sector in Zambia? *International Journal of Current Science Research and Review*, ISSN: 2581-8341 Volume 04 Issue 12. December 2021 DOI: 10.47191/ijcsrr/V4-i12-17, Impact Factor: 5.825 IJCSRR @ 2021
3. Kayombo, K. M. (2021). Revenue Diversification, Risk and Profitability of Banks: Evidence from Zambia. *SAARJ Journal on Banking & Insurance Research*, 10(2). ISSN: 2319-1422. DOI: 10.5958/2319-1422.2021.00012.6. Impact Factor: SJIF 2021 = 7.58.
4. Kayombo, K. M. (2021). The Case for Income Diversification in the Banking Sector in Zambia. Cheshire: Services for Science and Education. DOI: 10.14738/eb.215.2021. <https://scholarpublishing.org/sse/eb215/>.
5. Kayombo, K. M. and Mwiinga, B. (2021). Acceptability and Challenges of Online Assessment at ZCAS University during the COVID-19 Era. *Academicia: An International Multidisciplinary Research Journal*, 11(4), pp. 356-373 (ISSN: 2249-7137). DOI: 10.5958/2249-7137.2021.01086.7. Impact Factor: SJIF 2021 = 7.492.
6. Kayombo, K. M. and Mwiinga, B. (2021). Acceptability and Challenges of Online Higher Education in the Covid-19 Era in Zambia. *Academicia: An International Multidisciplinary Research Journal*, 11(2). ISSN: 2249-7137. DOI: 10.5958/2249-7137.2021.00568.1. Impact Factor: SJIF 2021 = 7.492.
7. Kumar, A. A. Mweshi, G. K., Sishumba, J. and Chisumpa, N. P. (2021). Youth Unemployment Based on Work Experience—A Case Study in Lusaka. *NOLEGEIN Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, 4(1). ISSN: 2582-032X. DOI (Journal): 10.37591/NJOBM.
8. Kwesi, A. S., Mweshi, G. K, Musona, D. and Tayali, E. M. (2021). Synoptic Review of Theory and Practice of Diversity Management. *International Journal of Human Resource Studies*, 11(1). ISSN 2162-3058. Doi: 10.5296/ijhrs.v11i1.18269. URL: <https://doi.org/10.5296/ijhrs.v11i1.18269>.

9. Mexon, J., Mweshi, G. K., and Kumar, A. A. (2021). The Relationship Between Entrepreneurship and Market Orientation Among Small and Medium Entrepreneurs. *NOLEGEIN Journal of Entrepreneurship Planning, Development and Management*, 4(2). ISSN: 2581-3900. DOI (Journal): 10.37591/ NJEPDM.
10. Rolls, D., Kwesi, A. S. and Mweshi, G. K. (2021). Learning Disabilities of Legal Trainees- Pre-Admission Tests and Students' Performance- Case Study of ZCAS University. *International Journal of Human Resource Studies*, 11(2). ISSN 2162-3058. doi:10.5296/ijhrs.v11i2.18502.



## APPENDIX 2: CONSULTANCY BIDS

Sn	Description	Status
1	Barloworld Equipment Zambia Ltd – Proposal to provide staff training services	Won
2	National Science and Technological Council – Proposal to develop a framework for Public – Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Research and Innovation (R&I) for Zambia	Lost
3	National Science and Technological Council – Proposal to Strengthen the Partnership Among Government, Academia and Industry in Research and Innovation	Lost
4	Road Transport and Safety Agency – Proposal Consultancy Services for Development of the 2022 – 2021 Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA) Strategic Plan.	Lost
5	Zambia Qualification Authority – Proposal to provide staff training services in Report and Minutes writing	Won
6	Zambia Institute of Chartered Accounts – Proposal for Consultancy Services to Review the ZICA Taxation Program Curriculum.	Lost
7	United Nations Development Programme – Proposal for National Technical Coordinator for Development and Formulation of UNDP Zambia Country Programme Document 2023 – 2027	Lost
8	BBC Media Action Zambia – Proposal to Provide Training Services in Project Management	Won
9	National Pension Scheme Authority – Training Service in Financial Modelling in Excel	Won
10	Ulendo Zambia – Training Services in Financial Management for Non-Finance Managers	Won