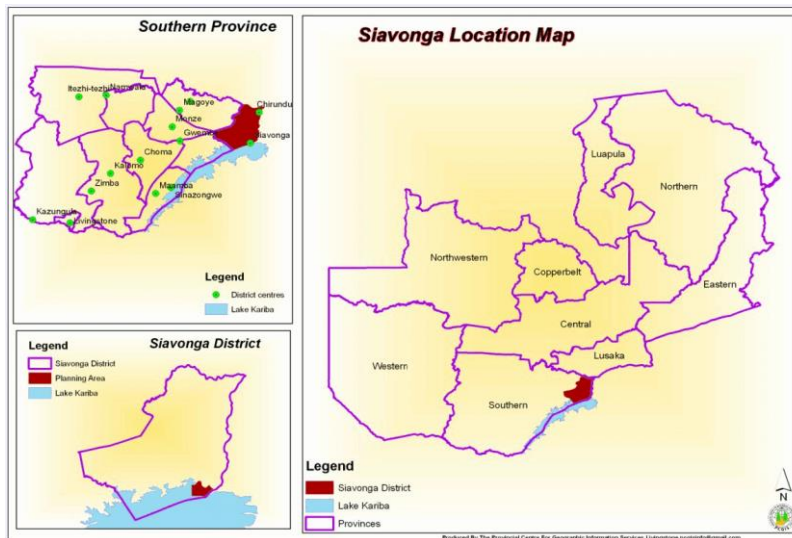


SIAVONGA DISTRICT



1.0 Physical Environment

Siavonga District is characterized by an escarpment zone which drops sharply from the plateau in the north to the valley which is now partly covered by Lake Kariba. The North-eastern part of the valley is bordered by the Zambezi and Kafue Rivers. The valley has an altitude of 500 to 600 meters but further decreases in the northern part of Lake Kariba to 400 to 500 meters. Ecologically the district is divided into three zones: The escarpment area lying at about 1000 to 1200 meters above sea level runs from the Southwest to the Northeast of the district and is characterized by hilly terrain and a sparse population. The valley floor lying about 600 to 800 meters above sea level is characterized by very hot and dry weather conditions and high population density. The Kariba Lakeshore lies at about 400 to 600 meters above sea level and is characterized by undulating landscape which experiences periodic inundation when high hydrological flood levels are attained. The lake flood waters usually recede rapidly with the onset of the dry season.

2.0 Climate

The climate of Siavonga is one of the hottest and driest in the country. The mean annual temperatures are about 25° C while the maximum temperature is about 40° C. The minimum temperature is above 10°C.

The mean annual rainfall is about 650 mm. The rainy season starts from middle November and ends in the middle of March. This results in a long dry season from April to November. The rainfall is erratic and insufficient. Further, dry spells of up to three weeks during the rainy season are also common in the district and this adversely affects good harvest of the rain-dependant crops.

3.0 Geology and Soils

Siavonga has a total land area of 3,413km² of which only 540km² is arable. This represents approximately 15 % of the total district land. Further, 10 % of this arable land is degraded. The land in the district is composed of the following soil types:

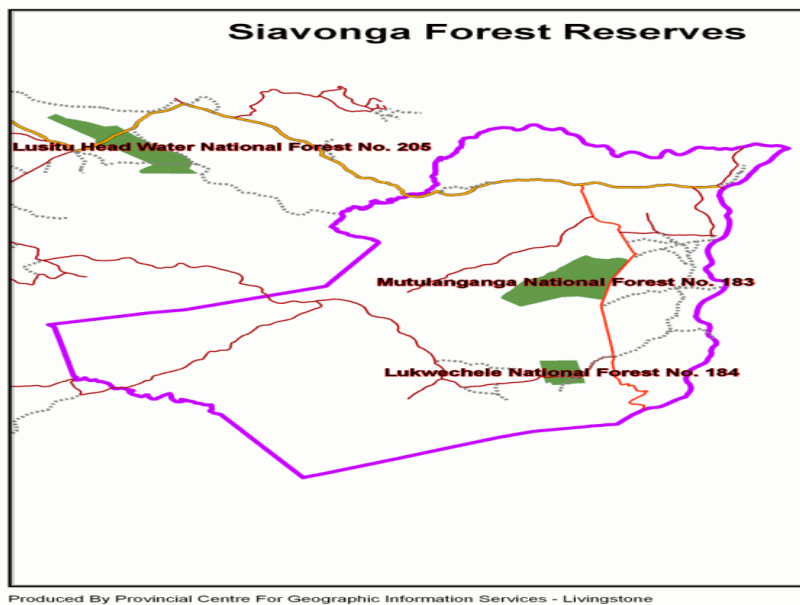
- Alluvial soils are mostly found along the lakeshore, the lower Zambezi and Kafue Rivers. These areas are most suitable for agriculture activities owing to the high fertility of the soils;
- The clayey soils are common in the valley areas that are susceptible to seasonal flooding. Some of these soils have vertic properties which make them relatively difficult to manage for agricultural purposes.
- Loamy sand soils dominate the escarpment area but are shallow and comprise of considerable amount of grit which is subject to erosion.

Generally the soils in Siavonga District have disadvantages of having a low water holding capacity, being highly susceptible to erosion and shallow top soil depth.

The escarpments and its surrounding areas consist of underlying rocks of gneiss, magmatites and schist formations which are covered by shallow to moderately deep soils. Low lying valley areas are dominated by loamy-sand to clay -loam soils. These soils are shallow and poor in quality.

4.0 Vegetation

The dominant vegetation cover is the Miombo woodland which covers the escarpment and its surrounding areas. The Miombo woodlands are open woodlands with grass covers. The lower Zambezi Valley and along tributaries such as Bbendele and Kafue Rivers and some low lying areas along the lake shore are covered by Mopane woodland which is characterized by one storeyed woodland with open deciduous canopy and long grass cover. The Munga thorn bush occurs on some of the deepest and most fertile soils especially along valley floor such as Lusitu, Sikoongo and Simamba.



5.0 Land Use

Table showing Current Land Use Patterns in Siavonga

Land Use Type	Hectarage	Percentage
Planned Residential	224.79	3.68
Unplanned Residential	85.62	1.40
Hostel/Lodges/Rest houses	42.81	0.70
Business/Commercial	45.09	0.74
Places of Worship	14.68	0.24
Nursery Schools	2.45	0.04
Primary Schools	20.18	0.33
Secondary School	14.68	0.24
Clinics	5.50	0.09
Hospital	21.41	0.35
Markets	7.34	0.12
Water Works	9.00	0.15
Local Government	0.77	0.01
Open Spaces and green belts	39.70	0.70
Playfields and Play Grounds	34.00	0.50
Light Industrial	109.59	1.80
Institutional	24.42	0.40
Other Uses & Undefined Land Use	5414.05	88.52
Total	6116.08	100.00

Source: Siavonga Land Use Map

6.0 Industry

Hydro power generation is the most important industrial activity in the area at Kariba North Bank Power Station by the Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation (ZESCO). Crocodile farming is another activity done. Further, a number of informal manufacturing activities are also prominent especially in the Kapenta rig manufacturing.

The main existing industrial area in Siavonga is in the north-eastern part on both sides of the M15 road. The prominent industrial activities are processing of natural flat

stones and manufacturing of mosaic tiles. Siavonga also has three filling stations of which only two are currently operational.

It should be noted, however, that much of the light industrial zone is currently occupied by squatters who constitute another informal settlement called Nsanje Muleke. This settlement has been in existence for about two decades now.

7.0 Commercial Activities

The main central business district (CBD) for Siavonga provided for in the development plan has not yet been developed. Currently, business activities of a commercial nature are sporadically located within the main built up area especially along Government Road and Simamba Road where the Siavonga Main Market is also situated. The main commercial activities are fishing, retail trade, banking and hotels/lodges.

8.0 Heritage Sites

Siavonga District has two heritage sites of national importance. These are the Chirundu Fossil Forest and Ng'ombe Illede National Monuments. Apart from these nationally recognised heritage sites, there are also locally known sites of significance such as Hachibbuba and Kabwili Cold springs, Bbimbi and Nsima Hot springs, Nankwilimba caves, Zyibamenda pan.

9.0 Tap Water Supply

Table: SWASCO Clients by Residence and Type of Connection

Residence	Source of Water			
	House Connections	Communal Taps	Kiosks	Total
Siavonga Planning Areas	632	11	05	648
New Site	122	00	00	122
Mess Flats & Fisheries	23	00	00	023
Hospital Compound	12	00	00	012
Government Compound	81	00	00	081

Medium Cost	62	00	00	062
Low Cost	43	00	00	043
High Cost	44	00	00	044
Lake front	45	00	00	045
Kanyebele Compound	113	07	00	120
Kaleya Compound	00	00	03	003
Game Compound	00	00	02	002
Siavonga Central Area	54	00	00	054
Institutions & Business Premises	33	00	00	033

Source: SWSC Siavonga Office, November 2010

According to the table above, only 599 out of 3,850 households (CSO 2010 Census) are connected to the SWSC water supply network in Siavonga Township. This means that only 16 % of the households in the township are connected to SWSC water supply network. This is because the high density areas most of which are informal settlements are far inadequately serviced by water utility or not connected at all. Further, some planned areas such as Matinangala Site and service and Fishing Camps are not connected to the SWSC water supply network.

10.0 Communication

The table below shows existing communication infrastructure in Siavonga Planning Area.

Table 2.6: Mobile Service Providers and Location of their Towers

Mobile Service Provider	Location of Tower	No. of Towers
Airtel	Stand Sub B of 474 Siavonga;	1
	Muntanga Mine	1
	Kariba Border	1
CELL Z	Namfunde Hill – Siavonga	1

MTN	Kariba Border	1
	Siavonga-Chirundu Junction	1
ZAMTEL	Siavonga Exchange	1
	ZAF Repeater in Siavonga	1

Source: Siavonga District Council, April 2010

11.0 Population and Demography

The population of the district is estimated at 89,787 people of which 43,668 (48.6%) are male and 46,119 (51.4%) are female (2010 Census), with an annual growth rate of 4.3%. There are 18,747 households.

About 65% of the district's population lives in the rural areas, concentrating mainly along the Kafue, Zambezi and Lusitu Rivers. The rural population is also concentrated along the shores of Lake Kariba. The urban population is concentrated in the two urban settlements of Siavonga and Chirundu. The most populated area is Kariba Ward with 16,118 inhabitants followed by Chirundu Ward with 15,052. The least populated is Nanyanga Ward with 2,526 inhabitants.

The district has 40,755 people (45% of the total population) that are 18 years and above. This implies that the district's population mostly consists of children.

The table below shows the district's population by ward, sex, number of households and those that are 18 years and above.

Table: Siavonga District Population Distribution by Ward

CONSTITUENCY	WARD	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	18 & Above
Siavonga	Nanyanga	518	1,257	1,269	2,526	1,166
	Kariba	3,850	8,044	8,074	16,118	8,307
	Simamba	1,395	2,945	3,157	6,102	2,750
	Mulimya	1,065	2,594	2,682	5,276	2,154
	Manchamvwa	945	2,155	2,210	4,365	1,870
	Sinadambwe	827	2,424	2,450	4,874	1,704
	Lusangazi	552	1,196	1,359	2,555	990
	Totals	9,152	20,615	21,201	41,816	18,941
	Percentages		49.3%	50.7%	100%	45.3%

Source: 2010 Census Report

12.0 Population Growth.

Southern Province's population stands at 1,212,124. About 49.6% of these are males while females account for 50.4% of the total provincial population. At national level, Southern Province accounts for 12% of the total national population. The average population density for the province is 14.4 persons per square kilometer.

Specifically for Siavonga District, the population growth rate is 4.3%. There, however, have been some variations over the years since the 1980s. For instance, the growth rate increased from 1.6% in decade 1980 – 1990 to 4.6% in the 1990 – 2000 decade and 4.3% in the last decade as shown in table 3.2 below. The district's population has been steadily growing as shown by the table below.

A number of pull factors account for this population trend. Siavonga's strategic geopolitical position has made it to be comparatively advantaged than the neighbouring Gwembe Valley districts. Thus, business and formal employment opportunities especially in the tourism (hospitality), fishing and power generation industries are among the major pull factors.

There are, however, some variations within the district according to locations and how comparatively advantaged such locations are over the others. Areas that have some pull

factors tend to attract population concentration. The table below gives a vivid situation about the population trends within the district.