

## About OPPAZ

**Name and acronym:** Organic Producers and processors Association of Zambia (OPPAZ)

**Country or region of activity:** Zambia

**Date of Creation:** August 1999

**Mission and objectives:** To develop, promote and strengthen the Zambian Organic Sector that effectively complements government efforts for national economic growth and poverty reduction through: (i) increased local and export organic production; (ii) improved incomes, food security and nutrition; (iii) production and processing of agricultural products; (iv) development and use of environmentally sustainable systems of production; (v) development of mutually supportive strategic networks; and (vi) lobbying and advocacy.

**Organization structure:** A constitution and decisions of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) govern OPPAZ. The AGM elects a Board led by a Chairperson and mandates it to translate decisions into policy. The Board employs a Secretariat led by a Chief Executive Officer for policy implementation and overall management of OPPAZ affairs.

**Membership:** OPPAZ has 86 members representing 26,000 smallholder producers broken down as 57 corporate entities of commercial enterprises, 10 cooperatives and producer associations, four training and development oriented non-state organisations; and 25 individual producers, processors and interested persons.

**Members of staff:** OPPAZ has 10 permanent management, technical and support staff at the Head Office and five project staff in the country-side.

### **Achievements in the country or region:**

- Organic production systems are visible and OPPAZ is a strategic partner of the public sector.
- Zambia now exports organic products to the European Union from 18 certified organic producers on 7,190,359 hectares organic land.
- Zambian organic products are sold in the Zambian supermarkets and dedicated organic shops.
- An African Organic Farmer Manual for East, Central and Southern Africa has been written.
- A visible network of local and international organic partnerships has been established.

**Sources of funding:** About 77.5% of OPPAZ budget is funded by Cooperating Partners' project grants. Other income sources include membership subscriptions, donations and service fees for certification, consultancy and brokerage.

**Web:** <http://www.manobi.sn/op/oppaz/>