

ICLD: Municipal Financing

Mitete Town Council – Zambia

Enhancement of Community Resource Mobilisation in Mitete

Introduction and Objective

Mitete Town Council is a statutory and public body that is established under the Local Government Act Chapter 281 of the laws of Zambia. The major source of income for the local authority is the Government Grant (Local Government Equalisation Fund). However, the municipality is mobilising locally generated revenue in the form of levies, fees and charges through community participation in order not to over depend on central government funding.

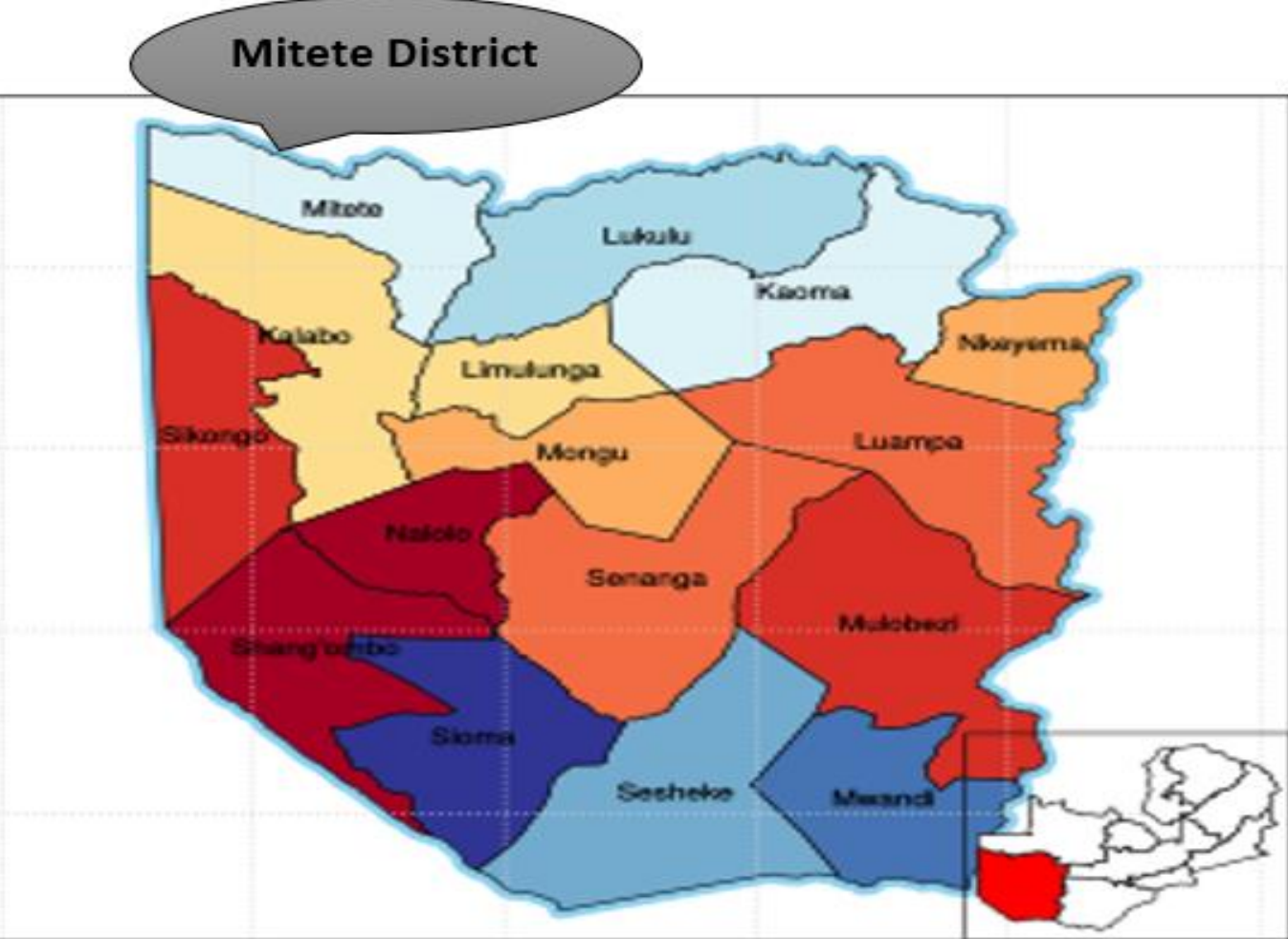


Figure 1. Location of Mitete District - Zambia

The overall objective of the project is to have the proportion of the locally generated revenue improved.

Target group and method

The target group for increasing the proportion of locally generated income was the community in all wards. The method used to engage the community was to use the established Ward Development Committees through meetings meant to identify revenue sources in each ward.



Figure 2. Meeting with community members

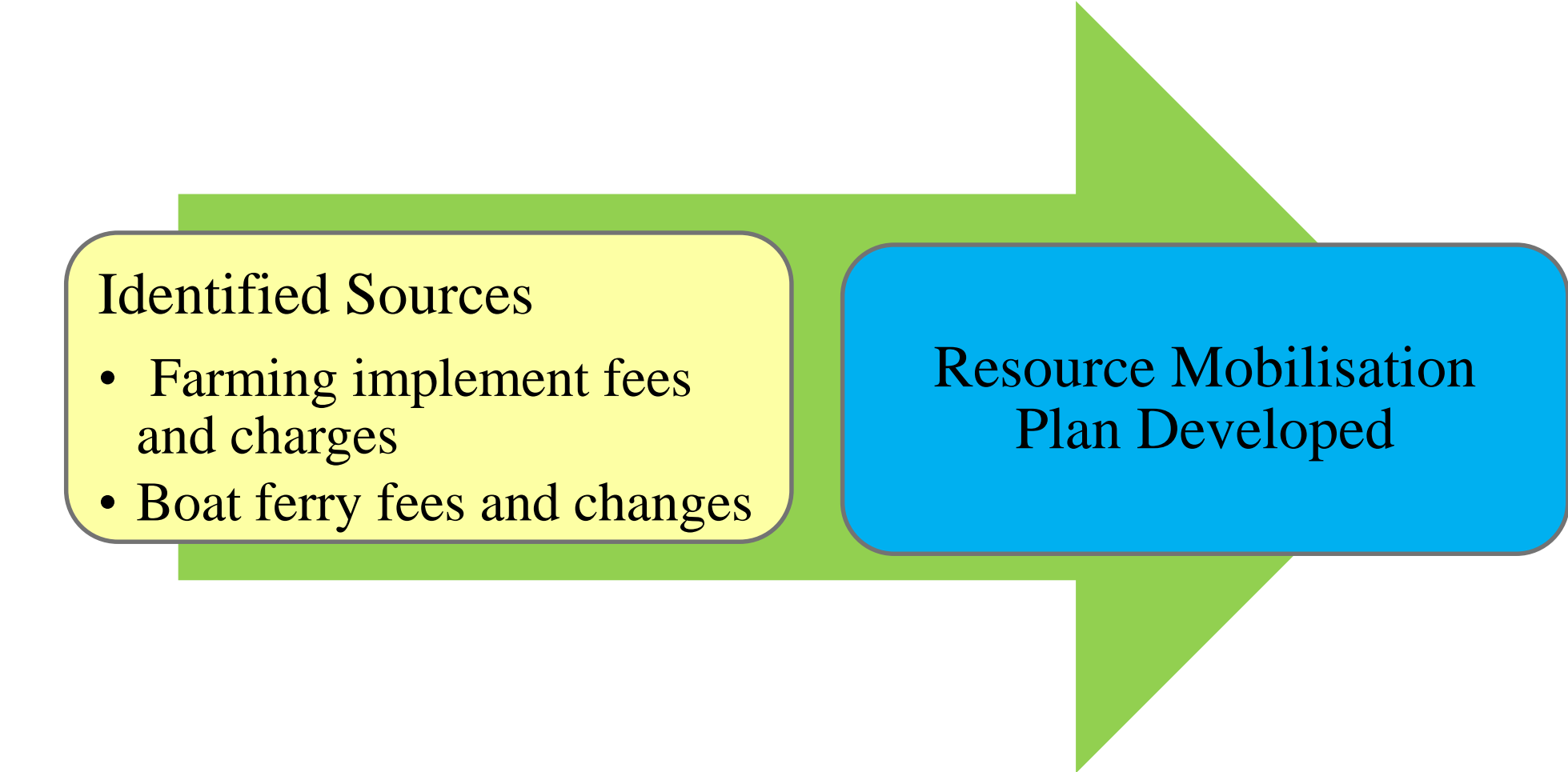
Results

The project team conducted stakeholder meetings aimed at disseminating project objectives to key players in order to secure public, political and traditional leadership support for the project. The meetings were also used to identify revenue sources.



Figure 3. Stakeholder meeting to identify revenue sources

The stakeholders meetings culminated into;



Impact

The impact of the project has been twofold. First, there has been a significant increase in locally generated revenue as shown in figure 4. Second, community participation in revenue identification and collection has been enhanced thereby creating groundswell for improved service provision to residents of Mitete District.

Locally generated revenue has gone up

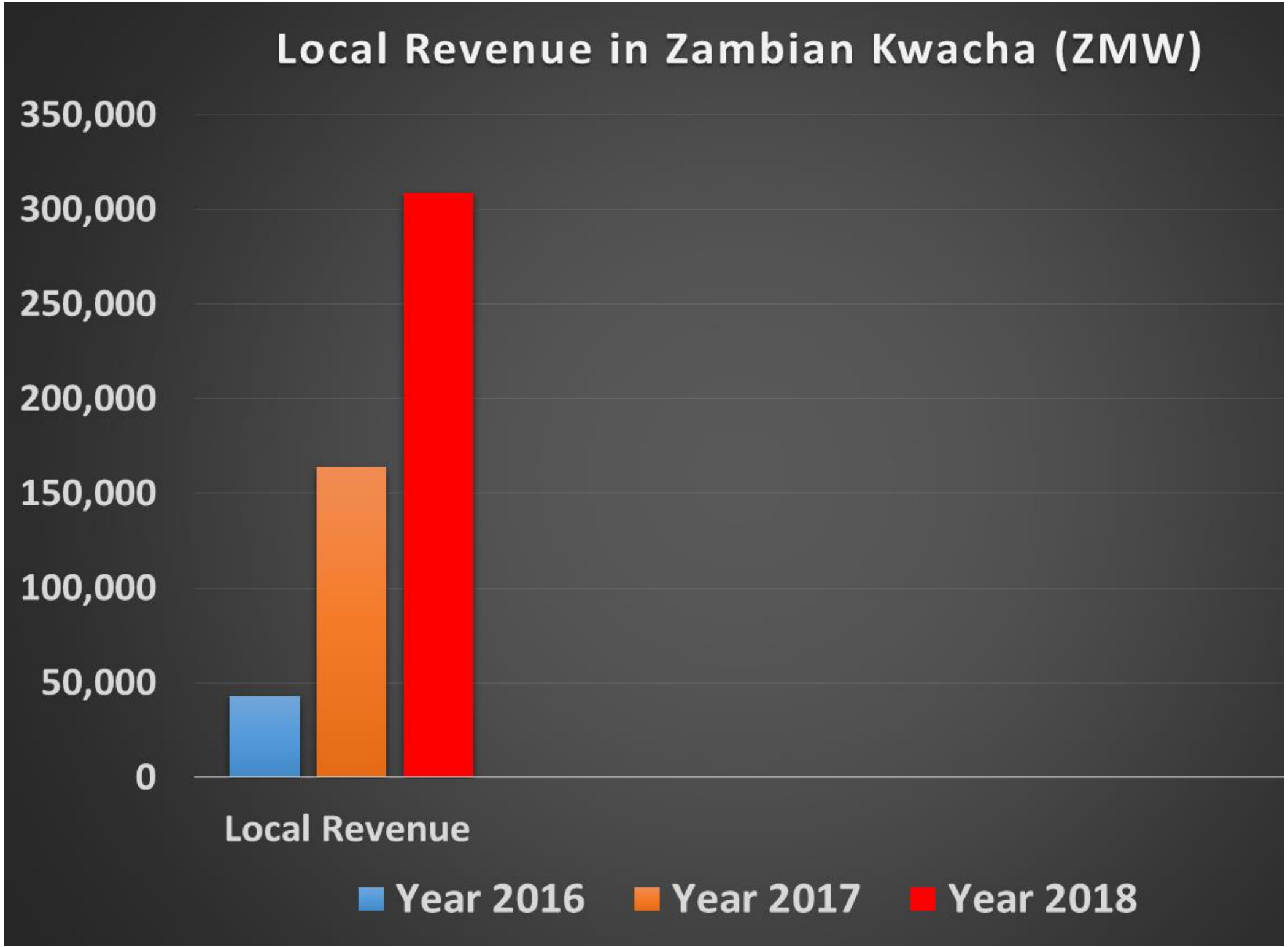


Figure 4. Revenue from local sources since the project was introduced

Within a period of two (2) years, the municipality has been able to move from ZMW 43,000 (2016) of locally generated revenue to ZMW 308,560 (2018). This huge increment could not happen by chance but rather the concerted efforts of the project team and the stakeholders involved.

The team believes that this achievement provide lessons that will be used to keep growing the share of the local resources .

Conclusions

The project has demonstrated that involving stakeholders from the community level such as traditional and civic leaders, ward development committees and residents has great potential to increase local revenue. Other salient points are that engaging the stakeholders from the beginning of the project and clearly sharing with them the objective and intended benefits of the project reduced resistance during the implementation of the project.

With the increase in locally generated revenue, the municipality will improve service provision to the community. The improvement will build the confidence residents have in the council and this will make execution of other initiatives get support from the community.

Acknowledgments

We would like to express our gratitude to the Mentor, Management of Mitete Town Council, Ward Development Committees and Traditional Leaders for their support to the project.

Finally, we are thankful to ICLD for the capacity received which will go a long way in assisting the council fulfil its mandates of service provision and improving living standards in Mitete.

Further information

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