

*Investing in people for social and economic justice in Zimbabwe*

# ZIMCODD ANNUAL REPORT

2014

## **About ZIMCODD**

ZIMCODD is a Social and Economic Justice coalition established in February 2000. It is registered as a Trust under the Trust Deed No. MA496/2011. It is dedicated to facilitating citizens' involvement, through their sectors and as activists in making public policy making and practice pro-people and sustainable.

ZIMCODD views indebtedness, the unfair local and global trade regime, tax injustices, unsustainable natural resource exploitation and lack of democratic, people-centered social economic and political governance as root causes of the socio-economic crises in Zimbabwe and the world at large. Drawing from community-based livelihood experiences of its membership, ZIMCODD implements programmes aimed at delivering the following objectives;

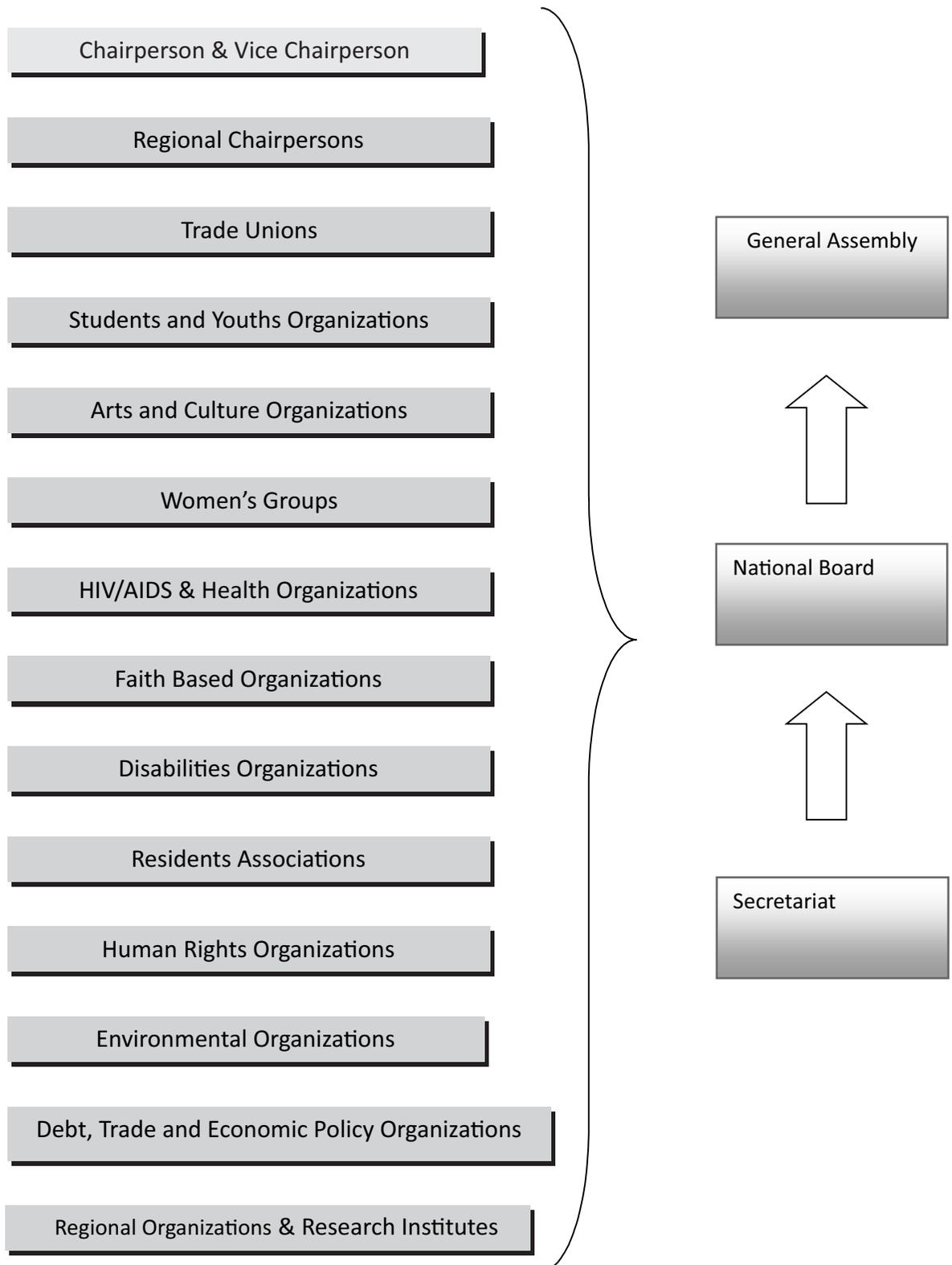
- To raise the level of economic literacy among ZIMCODD members and citizens to include views and participation of grassroots and marginalized communities.
- To facilitate research, lobbying and advocacy in order to raise the level of economic literacy of citizens.
- To formulate credible and sustainable economic and social policy alternatives
- To develop a national coalition and facilitate the building of a vibrant movement for social and economic justice.

### **Vision**

Sustainable socio-economic justice in Zimbabwe through a vibrant people based movement.

### **Mission**

To take action in redressing the Debt burden, Social and Economic Injustices through formulation and promotion of alternative policies to the neo-liberal agenda.



**ZIMCODD's GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

- 1) MR. JOY MABENGE (Chairperson)  
Crisis Coalition in Zimbabwe
- 2) MRS. PAULINE SIBANDA (Vice Chairperson)  
DAZ
- 3) MS. PATRICIA KASIAMHURU (Secretary)  
ZIMCODD
- 4) MR WILFRED GONDORO ( Treasurer)  
AFRODAD
- 5) MR. DZIMBABWE CHIMBGA (Chairman, Legal Committee and representing Legal and Human Rights Organisations Sector)  
Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights
- 6) MR. TENDAI CARTER MUCHADA (Chairperson, Harare Region)  
Combined Harare Residents Associations (CHRA)
- 7) MR. LIBERTY BHEBHE (Chairperson, Southern Region)  
NYDT
- 8) MR. ENNDY ZIYERA (Chairperson, Mutare Region)  
Zimbabwe Peace Project
- 9) MS. TECLA MASAMBA (Trade Unions Sector)  
Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU)
- 10) DR FANWELL BOKOSI (Regional Organisations and Research Institutions Sector)  
AFRODAD
- 11) MR. MASIMBA KUCHERA (Disability Organisations)  
Centre for Disability and Development
- 12) MR.MUTUSO DHLIWAYO (Environmental Organisations)  
Zimbabwe Environment Law Association (ZELA)
- 13) MRS. VALUE MGAGARA (Arts & Culture)  
Artists for Democracy Trust
- 14) MS. RUMBIDZAI MATEWE (HIV/AIDS & Health Organisations)  
Zimbabwe National Network of People Living with HIV (ZNPP+)
- 15) MRS. RITA NYAMPINGA (Gender & Women's Groups)  
Female Prisoners Support Trust (FEMPRIST)
- 16) MS. NTOMBIZODWA KHUMALO (Residents Associations)  
Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association (BPRA)
- 17) MRS. SARAH MWANDIYAMBIRA (Faith Based Organisations Sector)  
Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC)
- 18) MR. ISRAEL MABHOO (Debt Trade and Economic Policy Organisations)  
Alternative Business Alliance (ABA)
- 19) MR. DARLINGTON MADZONGA (Students and Youths Organisations)  
Students Solidarity Trust (SST)

## **About the report**

This report summarizes activities undertaken by ZIMCODD in 2014. A number of activities were undertaken as a continuation of the ZIMCODD 2013 – 2015 strategic plan while new initiatives were adopted to achieve the set outcomes in the strategic plan. The activities outlined in this report mainly capture ZIMCODD's work in the following regions of operation:

- The Northern Region covering Harare, Chitungwiza, Goromonzi, Norton, Chipinge South, Gokwe and Mutare.
- The Southern region covering Matabeleland region but mainly activities in Bulawayo, Matobo, Gwanda Binga, Zvishavane and Shurugwi.

ZIMCODD continued to be guided by the 2013 - 2015 Strategic Plan in which the following thematic areas were identified:

- Social and Economic Rights
- Trade Justice and Rural Livelihoods:
- Tax Justice
- Debt Management
- Development Aid Effectiveness
- Movement Building

The programming model remains as follows:

- Policy, Research and Advocacy Program, (PRAP)
- Civic Participation and Economic Development, (CPED)
- Information Communication and Technology Program, (ICT)
- Campaigns, Social Movement building and Networking.

## Message from the Executive Director

On behalf of the ZIMCODD Team – it gives me great pleasure to present a synopsis of our performance for the period January to December 2014.

The Report shows that 2014 was a year that the Coalition made significant progress in its quest to advance social and economic justice in Zimbabwe and beyond. Just as any other entity in Zimbabwe, ZIMCODD had its lows in terms of resources (financial and human) to adequately fulfill all its targets. Despite the setbacks ZIMCODD made remarkable strides in the realisation of targets set in the current Strategic Plan and 2014 Annual Plan.

Under the Social and Economic Rights thematic area, the key focus was on advocating for the translation of constitutional provisions into practical actions and towards the progressive realisation of social and economic rights for all Zimbabweans. The major highlight was the development of a Score Card which tracks progress by responsible authorities and government towards the full implementation of social and economic rights. The Right to Water constitutional provision was the major focus for 2014.

The Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors (SEJAs) remained at the centre stage of ZIMCODD activities at community level, leading lobby and advocacy work with office holders. Through trainings held under the ZIMCODD Civic Participation in Economic Development (CPED); SEJAs received skills on how to effectively engage with local leadership to demand their rights. The major highlight under this thematic area was the campaign against pre-paid water meters led by the SEJAs. In Bulawayo ZIMCODD SEJAs mounted resistance against pre-paid water meters in Cowdray Park. The same message was echoed in Harare, Chitungwiza and Norton where residents engaged with policy makers and highlighted how the water crisis is an infringement to the Right to water as espoused in Section 77(a) of the Zimbabwean Constitution.

Under the Tax Justice theme ZIMCODD continued to engage the citizenry through CPEDs and the Cheuka/ Look Back/ Khangela Emuva platform. The major aim under this thematic area was to strengthen citizens' voices that demand transparency and accountability in the exploitation and management of Zimbabwe's natural resources. ZIMCODD hopes that transparent and accountable governance of Zimbabwe's natural resources will lead to the increase of Zimbabwe's income to

cater for general populace's social needs. The increase in locally mobilized resources will also reduce Zimbabwe's dependence on aid and lead to the reduction of its external debt.

ZIMCODD sectors continued to engage on issues of Tax Justice. The Youths and Students cluster organised the High Schools Debate and Public Speaking tournaments on Tax Justice in Harare and Bulawayo. A National High Schools Debate and Public Schools Gala was organized and hosted by the ZIMCODD Southern Region. The debates could not be held in other ZIMCODD areas of operation mainly because of misconception by some authorities on the aims and objectives of these debates. ZIMCODD will continue to engage authorities such as Ministry of Education and emphasize the importance of economic and tax literacy debates among the generality of Zimbabweans; in particular the students and youths. A baseline study on "Zimbabwe's Tax System: Threats and opportunities for Development" was concluded and will be shared with stakeholders in early 2015. The Tax Justice theme also hosted a People's Tribunal at the SADC People's Summit on the impact of multi-national companies' activities in communities endowed with natural resources. A publication was produced with outcomes from the People's Tribunal and this will be used to engage the companies, SADC Governments as well as the SADC Chairperson.

ZIMCODD's target group outreach expanded to include small scale farmers who are now represented in ZIMCODD's Regional Committees. The small scale farmers' cluster falls under the Trade Justice and Rural Livelihoods theme. Through ZIMCODD CPEDs and policy engagement platforms, the farmers were empowered to demand fair prices for their produce. Apart from their ability to demand fair prices for their cotton crop, the farmers have also sought to diversify from cotton to other crops. ZIMCODD commissioned the publication of a Crop Diversification Booklet which has been shared with the farmers. Some farmers have since taken heed of the initiative and have diversified into new crops such as sesame seed. ZIMCODD also managed to launch new rural assembly sites in the Matobo area and the peri urban area of Goromonzi outside Harare.

The issue of Debt Management continues to be at the centre of ZIMCODD's work as the Coalition believes that the debt overhang affects Zimbabwe's social and economic development. As a Coalition the organisation continues to demand for an official debt audit and cancellation of illegitimate debts. As a response and continued advocacy by the Coalition, the Ministry of Finance established the Zimbabwe Debt Management Office (ZADMO). Although ZIMCODD preferred to

have an independent Debt Commission Office; we hope that the establishment of ZADMO is a first step in the right direction to an independent Debt Commission.

ZIMCODD was further encouraged by the response of the generality of the Zimbabwean citizenry when they engaged government during the Reserve Bank Debt Assumption Bill Public Hearings. The Zimbabwean public engaged with the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee and raised issues of lack of transparency and accountability on whose debt the government would assume. The people demanded an audit of the RBZ Debts to establish those who had borrowed and make them assume responsibility for their debt.

Under the Development Aid Effectiveness theme, ZIMCODD mainly concentrated efforts on minor research that sought to highlight the role of aid and its effect on development. The Coalition still needs to put in place effective mechanisms to monitor aid flows to Zimbabwe. In 2014 this was not easy to achieve because of the secrecy that inhibits access to information on aid flows.

At the centre of ZIMCODD work is the building of a vibrant people's movement that engages power holders on issues that affect the community, national and regional level. The major highlight for 2014 includes ZIMCODD's hosting of the SADC People's Summit; a regional event that brings together social movement organisations from the region. Over two thousand people attended the summit in Bulawayo. The Bulawayo Summit was the biggest event in terms of numbers and quality of engagement since the Summit process began in 2006. ZIMCODD coordinated the production and consolidation of a communiqué which was widely distributed and will be used to engage the SADC Chairperson; currently held by the Zimbabwean President His Excellency President Robert Gabriel Mugabe.

The Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) unit continues to play the significant role of linking ZIMCODD with coalition members and the outside world. A number of Policy Briefs, Position papers and Press Statements were published during the course of 2014. One of the highlights was the ZIMCODD Mbada Diamonds Position Paper and a Press Statement issued in response to Mbada Diamonds' financial statement published on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2014. In the financial statement Mbada attested that they had surpassed a \$1 billion dollar profit threshold in their 4 years of operations. The desk mobilised responses from the coalition members from Binga,

Checheche, Gokwe, Bulawayo and Harare. The responses from the ZIMCODD SEJAs were encouraging and showed that the ZIMCODD membership are now empowered to respond to issues that affect their livelihoods.

Under the Organisational Development theme ZIMCODD held its National Elective General Meeting (EAGM) on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2014 which ushered in a new Board. The EAGM was preceded by regional elective meetings to establish Regional Committees who oversee and drive ZIMCODD's operations at regional level.

In conclusion, let me extend my gratitude to our Board for their sterling work and direction given to the ZIMCODD Secretariat. I am indebted to our membership throughout Zimbabwe especially our Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors in all areas of ZIMCODD's operations who work tirelessly at community level to defend and propel the quest for social and economic justice. We also appreciate our funding partners who have made ZIMCODD work possible through providing technical and financial resources.

Lastly my appreciation goes to the ZIMCODD Secretariat whose hard work is there for all to see. I pray that the spirit of team work they displayed and the ZIMCODD family spirit will be strengthened and further abound in 2015.

We invite you to read the ZIMCODD Report. We welcome your comments arising from issues raised in the report.

**Patricia Kasiamhuru**

**Executive Director**

# 1. Operating Environment

## 1.1 External Environment

### 1.1.1 Political

The year 2014 capped off a full year and a half period since the July 31<sup>st</sup> 2013 General Elections which ushered in the Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front (ZANU–PF) government and ended a five year Government of National Unity (GNU). The ruling party, ZANU PF had internal elections from its Youth and Women's Leagues. Intra party squabbles saw the suspension and dismissal of several leaders in ZANU (PF) during the run-up to the main Congress held in December 2014. The Vice President and some senior ministers effectively became ordinary members of the party following their unsuccessful run for Central committee positions. Above all President Robert Mugabe was endorsed for another term as the Party's President and presidential candidate for the 2018 elections. After the congress there was a major shake up with ministers and deputy ministers being fired from government. The disturbances in the ruling party partially affected end of year activities as some had to be postponed to 2015 in order to capture the new contextual dispensation ushered in by the transition in ZANU PF.

The main opposition party Movement for Democratic Change - Tsvangirai (MDC –T) split and two breakaway factions regrouped under one party. The main MDC then held an elective congress for its five-year leadership whilst the other factions announced plans for the formation of a new party to be known as the Democratic Union. The country's political environment was generally peaceful except for instances of intra-party violence in both the ruling and opposition parties. The intra party conflict affected ZIMCODD programming since the invitation or engagement of certain party officials was usually regarded with suspicion or even non-participation by other party officials from the same parties but different factions.

The ruling party came up with a new look leadership that saw some cabinet ministers including the country's vice president being sacked. This is likely to affect the social, political and economic situation of Zimbabwe in the coming years. ZIMCODD's implementation of its strategic plan which is left with a year might be affected as policies may change following the ZANU PF congress' resolutions. On a sadder note, the government seems to lack the much needed political will to align various pieces of legislations to the new constitution leading to some serious human rights violations at different levels.

### 1.1.2 The Social and Economic Environment

The ZANU-PF government continued with campaigning for public support and awareness of the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Social and Economic Transformation (ZIMASSET), its five-year economic plan throughout the first half of the year. Certainly, 2014 did not end well on the economic front with growth forecasts being revised downwards, company closures and unemployment levels at over 80%. The government also failed to attract significant financial inflows. This could force Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa to intensify re-engagements efforts with the West, World Bank, International Monetary Fund and other multi-lateral lending institutions<sup>1</sup> and this is the time for the government to start to be serious about domestic resources mobilization strategies

However, on the ground, at the beginning of the year, there were rampant salary scandals in local government authorities and parastatals, generally bringing to light the rampant lack of public accountability in the management of social and economic affairs.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore there was little headway in government promises to make beneficiation and value addition in the minerals and other extractives sectors compulsory. Beneficiation<sup>3</sup> and transparency are key components that can have positive impact in domestic revenue mobilization, especially in a nation like Zimbabwe where the majority of the people live in poverty.

In the urban areas, concerns have continued to rise over the safety of water being provided by local authorities such as the Harare City Council.<sup>4</sup> In Seke and Chitungwiza the Courts had to intervene following a planned demolition of houses by the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing.<sup>5</sup> The urban communities continue to suffer a double jeopardy of poor service delivery and uncertain future. Industry operated at around 30% of its capacity resulting in 2056 people losing their jobs in the period between January and mid-June 2013.<sup>6</sup>

The beginning of 2014 saw the selling seasons for the country's major cash crops, tobacco, maize and cotton. The selling season of the latter began in mid-June. The prices for the crops, e.g. cotton at US\$0.35/kg to US\$0.45kg were very low such that many cotton farmers expressed displeasure<sup>7</sup> and strong desires to diversify.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.theindependent.co.zw/2014/01/03/sneak-peek-2014-political-landscape/>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.herald.co.zw/corruption-threatens-zim-asset-implementation/>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.zim.gov.zw/index.php/component/content/article/151-december-2013/11107-zim-ready-to-beneficiate-gems>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.newspday.co.zw/2014/03/15/harare-city-council-says-water-supply/>

<sup>5</sup>[http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/news/zimsit\\_illegal\\_structures\\_demolished\\_in\\_seke\\_zbc/](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/news/zimsit_illegal_structures_demolished_in_seke_zbc/)

<sup>6</sup><http://www.kubatana.net/2014/06/19/2104/job-creation-going-wrong-direction/>

<sup>7</sup>[http://www.zbc.co.zw/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=44942:cotton-season-now-in-full-swing&catid=47:agriculture&Itemid=89](http://www.zbc.co.zw/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=44942:cotton-season-now-in-full-swing&catid=47:agriculture&Itemid=89)

A major disaster in the rural poor people's livelihoods was the Tokwe-Mkosi dam wall collapse during the 2013/2014 rainy season. The disaster resulted in mass relocations of about 18000 people to Chingwizi Transit Camp, 200km from the City of Masvingo, where tales of disease outbreaks and crime have abounded.<sup>8</sup> The dam collapse highlights how the state is not conversant with environmental assessments when embarking on economic projects. These disasters call for serious assessments in sectors like mining where suspicious environmental impact assessments are undertaken, resulting in environmental disasters or degradation and the accompanying worsening poverty, threatened food security and general lowering in quality of life for rural livelihoods.

### **1.1.3 The Internal Environment**

During the year, the then Programs Director, Mr. Hopewell Gumbo left ZIMCODD and joined the Frederick Ebert Stiftung (FES). Mrs. Janet Zhou, Southern Region Programs Officer was appointed Programs Director in May 2014. Ms Nomalanga Ncube was upgraded to the Programmes Officer post in the Southern Region. In the same year the organization was joined by Mr. Tinashe Gumbo (Policy Research and Advocacy Officer), Mr. Rangarirai Chikova (Programs Assistant) and Mr. Donald Marimbe, Ms Precious Lupahla joined ZIMCODD as a student intern while and Ms Emma Andersson joined as Intern under the AGS Internship programme. The movement of personnel had a positive impact on the programming as the programmes team was strengthened.

ZIMCODD moved its Head Offices from Number 5 Orkney Road, Eastlea to Number 226 Samora Machel Avenue Harare. The shifting of offices had an impact on programming as the organization spent almost two weeks with no internet and telephones effectively crippling the implementation of activities. On the positive, the new offices are close to town and easily accessible by ZIMCODD members.

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<sup>8</sup><http://www.southerneye.co.zw/2014/05/04/miserable-conditions-chingwizi/>

## **Activities Summary by thematic area**

### **1.0 Social and Economic Right**

ZIMCODD campaigned for the inclusion of social and economic rights in the Zimbabwe new constitution. The next phase is the justiciability of the rights, and to achieve this, the coalition is working across sectors to achieve the full realization of the rights. ZIMCODD continues to call for justiciable, tangible and sustainable social and economic rights. Activities are now focused at advocating for the translation of the constitutional provisions into practical actions and steps towards the progressive realization of social and economic rights for every Zimbabwean.

#### **1.1 Civic Participation and Economic Development, (CPED) Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors (SEJA) Training Workshops**

In 2014, ZIMCODD conducted three SEJA training workshops for its active members and new leadership after the elective Annual General Meetings (AGM) held in the first quarter of the year. Two workshops were conducted in the Northern Region whilst the Southern Region conducted one. The trainings were all-rounder covering all thematic areas and will impact positively on the ZIMCODD strategy of enabling grassroots and communities-led campaigns.

##### **1.1.2 National SEJA Impact Meeting**

The National SEJA Impact Meeting was conducted on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in Harare. It was a meeting held in order to coordinate and share experiences, challenges faced by SEJAs in executing their duties as well as the lessons learnt since they started practicing as ZIMCODD SEJAs. The meeting enabled interaction from diverse communities and networking opportunities. It was attended by 34 SEJAs (16 males and 18 females) representing all the regions ZIMCODD is working in.



**National SEJA Impact Meeting held in Harare**

## **1.2 Policy, Research and Advocacy (PRAP)**

### **1.2.1 Cheuka/ Look Back /Khangela Emuva<sup>9</sup> - World Water Day 2014 Commemorations**

Two meetings were held in Harare and Chitungwiza as part of the World Water Day Commemorations to demand the right to water which is a constitutional guarantee in the new constitution.

In Bulawayo, a policy interface meeting was held in Cowdray Park at Mahlathini Primary School on 22 March 2014 to commemorate the World Water Day. The meeting which was held in collaboration with Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association (BPRA) was attended by 223 participants (122 females and 101 males). The councilor, Mr. Collet Ndlovu and the constituency Member of Parliament, Mr. Reggie Moyo graced the event. Residents castigated the plans by City Council to do a pilot project on pre-paid water meters in Cowdray Park, which they said is a violation to Section 77a of the constitution. Though the Councilor was adamant about the Council resolution to install pre paid water meters, the people called on the Councilor to represent them effectively in Council. The MP for the area also assured the residents that he was going to take up the issues raised to Parliament.

### **1.2.2 Water Crisis Dialogue Meeting**

In 2014 ZIMCODD facilitated the Norton Regional Dialogue meeting on water crisis, on the 20th of November 2014, under the Access to water campaign. The event was attended by 137 participants (68 females and 70 males), drawn from policy makers, technocrats and citizens. The meeting allowed the Norton residents to dialogue with their political and public officials around the water crisis currently affecting the town. Participants came up with a position paper that will be used for advocacy purposes as well as guide ZIMCODD's intervention strategies in the area.

<sup>9</sup>This platform promotes dialogue and citizen participation in the formulation of people centered policies at all levels. The space continues to gain popularity since its launch in December 2013. Citizens are actively engaging with policy makers and the culture of a demand-driven citizenry is being nurtured. In some areas of operation membership can now engage without the presence of ZIMCODD secretariat and writing reports for compilation using the SEJA activity framework developed by secretariat.



***Norton Access to Water Campaign Meeting***

### **1.2.3 Gender Policy Dialogue**

On 17 March 2014, ZIMCODD held a Gender Policy Dialogue in Bulawayo. The meeting sought to create a platform of interface between the Gender cluster and their Parliamentary representatives on key challenges faced by women in Bulawayo Metropolitan Province.

### ***1.2.4 Socio Economic Rights Community Policy Dialogue Meetings***

During the period under review ZIMCODD carried out extensive Community Meetings under the Cheuka/ Look back/ Khangela Emuva platform on social and economic rights. The community meetings were held in Harare, Chitungwiza and Bulawayo. These were attended by residents' associations and local councilors. Residents had the opportunity to interface with their local government representatives in the form of Councilors. The meetings were held as part of monitoring the councilors on how they conduct their work and to make them accountable to the residents on access to water and general social service delivery.

### **1.2.5 Media Sensitization Workshop on the Right to Water**

Two media sensitization workshops on the access to water and social service delivery were held in Harare and Bulawayo. The Media Sensitization Workshops served as a platform to enlighten journalists on social and economic justice issues and the significance of reporting on such issues in an objective manner.

### 1.3 Campaigns, Social Movement Building and Networking

Under the Social and economic rights thematic area a number of campaigns were carried out during the period under review. Some of the activities are outlined below.

#### 1.3.1 ZIMCODD Water Taskforce<sup>10</sup>

The ZIMCODD Water Taskforces both in Bulawayo and Harare consistently met to map the way forward on how to address the water challenges. The purpose of the meetings were to monitor the work being done by elected councilors in line with the objectives of the taskforce committee as well to oppose the installation of prepaid water meters which are a threat to the residents' constitutional right to water.



***Cowdray Residents demonstrate against Council's Plan to install pre paid water meters in the suburb***

<sup>10</sup>The ZIMCODD water task forces in Harare and Bulawayo have been instrumental in monitoring the fulfilment of the right to water as guaranteed in the new constitution Section 77 (a). ZIMCODD has intentions to set up task forces for all the social and economic rights in the Bill of rights to track, monitor and engage on the realisation of social and economic rights.

## 2.0 Tax Justice

**Strategic Objective:** *Build a strong and vibrant Tax Justice movement that demands transparency and accountability in taxation, natural resources exploitation and extractive industries in Zimbabwe by 2015.*

Through ZIMCODD intervention in the area of tax justice, the concept has since been understood by critical stakeholders like the media and other coalition members. The thematic area also saw the formation of the Zimbabwe Network Against Illicit Financial Flows (ZINAIFF). ZINAIFF as a movement managed to conduct policy interfaces, capacity building and more importantly recruiting and mobilizing other activities, government officials, traditional leaders and the unemployed into illicit outflow and tax justice consciousness. School children and teachers have been effectively included into the tax justice movement through the high schools debates.

### 2.1 Civic Participation and Economic Development, (CPED)

#### 2.1.1 Faith Based Sector Tax Justice CPED workshop

In building the tax justice movement ZIMCODD is engaging and activating all its sectors through CPED trainings. The Southern Region in collaboration with the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) and Christian Legal Society (CLS) mobilized the faith based sector for a tax justice training.

#### 2.1.2 Labour Sector - Tax Justice CPED workshop

ZIMCODD conducted a CPED on tax justice with the labor sector on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2014. Labor leaders were urged to be key participants on issues of tax justice as they are strategically located and they are the major victims of the government's failure to mobilize resources.

#### 2.1.3 Strengthening CSOs, Parliament and Government Agencies' Capacity for Effective Natural Resource Governance

In 2014, ZIMCODD conducted 4 community training workshops for its members on natural resources governance. The workshops were carried out in Mutare , Gwanda, Shurugwi and Zvishavane .The training workshops were organized by ZIMCODD in collaboration with Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA)and these were aimed at strengthening the capacity of community members in participating in effective natural resource governance.

#### 2.1.4 Regional High School's and Tertiary Institutions Public Speaking and Debates

ZIMCODD launched the High Schools and tertiary institutions debates and public speaking gala in 2011. The 2014 debate and public speaking gala ran under the theme: *The utilization of National Resources for Social and Economic Development: The case for Debt Management, Extractive Industries and Tax Justice*. The Southern Region high schools debates were held in Bulawayo while the Northern Region High schools debates were held in Harare. The debates were escalated, hence the National High School's Debate and Public Speaking Gala was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Mzilikazi High School in Bulawayo.



**ZIMCODD National Chairperson, Mr. Joy Mabenge handing over an award to one of the best public speakers and students following proceedings during the ZIMCODD 2014 Debate and Public Speaking Gala**

## 2.2 Policy, Research and Advocacy (PRAP)

### 2.2.1 Expert Training of the Legislatures - "Transparency and Accountability in Zimbabwe's Extractive Industries: The Role of the Legislature"

The meeting was held with the Parliamentary Committee on Mines and Energy. The meeting was meant to allow the legislatures to have an overall appreciation of the information that affect the general operational environment of the different stakeholders in the mining sector. With this information would be expected to make informed decisions in their work.

### 2.2.2 Baseline study on Zimbabwe Tax System

ZIMCODD conducted a baseline study on taxation entitled, *"Zimbabwe's Tax System: Threats and Opportunities for Development."* The study gave the historical context of taxation tracing the major changes in the types, structures and administration of taxes from the pre-colonial era up to

date. The major findings of the study are that the tax system is regressive, tax exemptions and other incentives are not meaningfully contributing to the development of the nation.

### **2.2.3 Community Voices on Illicit Financial Flows**

The community voices publication aims to capture information on the causes, characteristics, forms, mechanisms, effects and the possible solutions to the IFFs. As a social economic justice movement, ZIMCODD produced the paper so as to expose the serious effects of illicit financial flows on the development of Zimbabwe and how they further marginalize the populace to poverty.

## **2.3 Campaigns, Social Movement Building and Networking**

### **2.3.1 SADC People's Tribunal**

ZIMCODD also hosted a Peoples Tribunal at the SADC People's Summit, it ran under the theme '*Peoples Tribunal on the Impact of MNCs in communities endowed with natural resources in SADC*'. People of the region brought MNCs to court on the extraction of natural resources at the SADC People Summit.

### **2.3.2 Pilot Civil Society and Community Training Workshop on Contract Review and Monitoring In the Mining Sector**

ZIMCODD Northern region participated in a ZELA Pilot Civil Society and Community Training Workshop on Contract Review, Monitoring and Analysis in the mining sector. The pilot training session was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2014 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Harare.

### **2.3.3 Alternative Mining Indabas**

Pursuant to the objective of building alliances across sectors and other social movements in promoting people's struggles for social and economic justice, ZIMCODD in collaboration with ZELA and ZCC under the Natural Resource project participated in the alternative mining indabas. The first was held at Gwanda Hotel and the national Indaba was held at Bulawayo on 25 – 26 September 2014. ZIMCODD's concern in natural resource management is the claw back clause in the constitution which says "within the limits of available resources". Zimbabwe is sufficiently endowed with natural resources especially in the mining and extractives sector which must be used to support the government's efforts to effectively provide for social and economic rights of the poor and marginalized.

## **3.0 Trade Justice and Rural Livelihoods**

The Trade Justice and Rural Livelihoods thematic area continued to have considerable impact on the livelihoods of small scale farmers within ZIMCODD's areas of operation. There was also the initialization of work with peri-urban communities threatened by land-grabs and predatory urbanization in areas such as Goromonzi outside Harare and Seke outside Chitungwiza.

ZIMCODD has to a greater extent achieved the strategic objectives outlined for this thematic area. Due to capacity building workshops in Matobo, Gokwe and Chipinge, small scale farmers have fully gained the ability and courage to lobby for just and fair, production, marketing and pricing of their produce. ZIMCODD also facilitated the compilation and publication of a booklet on crop diversification and copies have so far been distributed to farmers.

### **3.1.0 Civic Participation in Economic Development, (CPED)**

#### **3.1.1 Chipinge farmers Workshop and SEJA Training**

The workshop in Chipinge was aimed at reinforcing the capacity of SEJAs and the membership to actively defend their constitutional and economic rights through improved legal knowledge and training on tax justice, government and global economic policies and how these directly impact upon rural livelihoods.

#### **3.1.2 Matobo SEJA Training Workshop**

In 2013, ZIMCODD launched the Matobo rural livelihoods project to empower and develop their capacities to negotiate for fair pricing, demand their social and economic rights through the formation of strong producer associations to discuss their general livelihoods issues. As a follow up to work done several members in ward 19 were trained on ZIMCODD thematic areas covering social and economic rights, debt management, tax justice, aid effectiveness, trade justice and land rights in the new constitution.

#### **3.1.3 Formation of the Matobo Assembly**

On 24 June 2014, ZIMCODD facilitated the formation of a rural livelihoods assembly committee in Matobo dominated by small scale irrigation farmers. The committee is chaired by Chelesani Mdlongwa and comprises of 7 members of whom 2 are men and 5 are women.

### 3.1.4 ZIMCODD - Simukai Meetings on Goromonzi Land-Grabs

ZIMCODD started engaging with Simukai Rural Residents Association in Goromonzi on the issues of land grabs in light of the expansion of the City of Harare. Rural Livelihoods are affected as their source of livelihoods is taken away from them without consultation and compensation. ZIMCODD intends to use the case in its advocacy work as a reflection on many other injustices happening in the rural communities nationwide.

### 3.1.5 Peasants and Small Scale Farmers Pre-planting meetings

Peasant and Small Scale Farmers that ZIMCODD work with already have a capacity to analyze their agricultural problems and act on this analysis by making appropriate changes to their farming system. ZIMCODD's objective is to strengthen and make more effective this existing capacity of peasant farmers



*Peasants farmers during the pre-planting meeting held in Harare*

### 3.1.6 Workshop on the Popularity of the SADC Free Trade Protocol

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2014, ZIMCODD conducted a workshop on the Popularity of the SADC Free Trade Protocol. The workshop was a follow up activity to various meetings and a research conducted on the Popularity of the SADC Free Trade by ZIMCODD in 2013. A communiqué summarizing the issues which had come out of the meeting was sent to the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

### **3.2.0 Policy Research and Advocacy (PRAP)**

#### **3.2.1 Cheuka/Look Back/Khangela Emuva: Cotton Farmers All Stakeholders Workshop**

ZIMCODD conducted a Cotton Farmers' All Stakeholders Workshop on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2014 at Cresta Oasis Hotel in Harare. The meeting was attended by 29 participants, (14 females and 15 males). The workshop witnessed an improved awareness of issues in interface between the small scale cotton farmers and the officials from the Agricultural Marketing Authority (AMA), Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development, Agritex as well as with civil society. . After the meeting farmers, managed to engage with the Cotton Ginners Association on the cotton price and remained resolute in demanding a just price of at least US\$0.70/kg for their cotton. Follow ups were also done with the Competition and Tariffs Commission to challenge the Cotton Ginners Association monopoly.

#### **3.2.2 Binga All Stakeholders Meeting 2014**

The All Stakeholders Meeting with Binga Fishing Cooperatives members was held in Binga on 22 October 2014 at Twusimpe Catholic Centre .The meeting was attended by 30 people (7 women and 23 men). The fishing cooperatives were confident in demanding their rights to earn a living and were calling for changes to unfavorable laws that impede their rights. The meeting brought together stakeholders from the Binga Fishing Industry which included the National Parks and Wildlife Authority, The Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) and Fishing Cooperatives. The objective of the meeting was to mobilize, lobby and advocate for subsidies, just and fair prices and promoting interface meetings at district level with policy makers in order to improve the livelihoods of the farmers. The fishing cooperatives were confident in demanding their rights and were calling for changes to unfavorable laws that impede their rights to work and earn a decent living showing progressive change.

### **3.3.0 Campaigns, Social Movement Building and Networking**

#### **3.3.1 Gokwe Field Day**

A field day was conducted at Ishmael Gwekwerere's<sup>11</sup> homestead on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2014. The Field Day is a concept under Agritex where outstanding farmers in a certain ward/district are recognized for their achievements. Mr. Gwekwerere is a small scale cotton farmers, he is one of the farmers who has benefited from ZIMCODD programs and this in itself shows the growth of SEJAs in farming. It was also used as an exchange for Chipinge farmers to learn.

<sup>11</sup>Ishmael Gwekwerere is one of ZIMCODD's leading SEJA currently leading the Gokwe Chapter and is the National Chairman for the Free Cotton Producers Association

**3.3.2 Agriculture and People's Livelihoods – 2014 SADC People's Summit**

ZIMCODD mobilized small scale producers in the SADC region during the SADC People's Summit held in Bulawayo in August 2014. The farmers discussed challenges they were facing in trying to provide food for their families and their countries. They demanded that SADC member states facilitate their participation in policy making and ensuring that harmonization of policies and policy review towards enhancing support to small scale farmers through broader consultative process. Their demands got into the SADC People Summit Communiqué which is used to engage with SADC structures.

## 4.0 Debt Management

*Strategic Objective: To influence accountable and transparent public finance management.*

ZIMCODD continues to advocate for a debt audit, cancellation and for local resource to be democratically mobilized into funding social and economic rights for all Zimbabweans. The notable highlights in 2014 under the debt management thematic area were the government press statement on the statutory establishment of the Zimbabwe Debt Management Office (ZDMO) under the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, which ZIMCODD responded to and the gazetting of the RBZ (Debt Assumption) Bill which highlights government intentions to assume the 1.3Billion USD RBZ debt accrued from 2008.

### 4.1.0 Policy, Research and Advocacy (PRAP)

#### 4.1.1 Debt Dialogue Conference – 30 September 2014

ZIMCODD convened a Debt Conference on 30 September 2014 at Rainbow Towers in Harare under the theme “Towards people centered debt resolution strategies in Zimbabwe”. The meeting was held under the Cheuka/ Look Back/Khangela Emuva platform. Participants called for wider consultation and participation on loan contraction and debt management processes.

#### 4.1.2 Mutare Debt and Extractives Forum

The Mutare Debt and Extractives Forum was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2014 at Golden Peacock Hotel. The meeting was carried out under the Cheuka/Look Back/Khangela Emuva Platform are aimed at engendering greater participation of various key stakeholders on debt and extractive issues. It is envisioned that the dialogue series will further create platforms to broaden the discourse on the social effects of debt and the role extractives play in social and economic human development.

#### 4.1.3 Position paper and a press release on the Setting up Statutorily of the Debt Management Office (ZDMO)

A press statement and a position paper in response to a press statement by the Minister of Finance on the Setting up Statutorily of the Debt Management Office was produced and circulated. In the statement ZIMCODD maintains its position that as a starting point towards a lasting solution, there is need for an official public debt.

#### **4.1.4 ZIMCODD's Position on the RBZ Debt Assumption Bill**

Following the announcement of the gazetted Debt Assumption Bill by the Government of Zimbabwe on 13 June 2014, ZIMCODD produced a press statement stating its position on the \$1,3billion debt to be assumed by the GOZ. ZIMCODD also facilitated the participation of SEJAs in Parly Portfolio committee public hearing denouncing the intentions of government to assume to debt without a debt audit. ZIMCODD was concerned about the fate of the tax payer if the debt was to be assumed by the state. The assumption of the Reserve Bank Debt meant that it was the tax payer who was going to continue bearing the brunt of heavy taxation.

### **4.2 Policy, Research and Advocacy (PRAP)**

#### **4.2.1 Research on post 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

ZIMCODD conducted a research on post 2015 MDG agenda entitled “Implications of AID and Domestic Resources Financing on the Post 2015 MDG Agenda”. A follow up validation workshop was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2014. The objectives of the workshop were to review the draft report with a view to validating information, data and evidence gathered on the quality and quantity of MDG related aid and domestic resources finance for development and the implications of MDG related Aid and domestic resources financing lessons and proposals on the post 2015 agenda in Zimbabwe. The workshop was attended by 27 participants (19 male and 8 females) drawn from various stakeholders working on issues related to MDGs

#### **4.2.2 Meeting on Istanbul CSO Aid Effectiveness Principles**

ZIMCODD in partnership with Reality of Aid (RoA) conducted a CSO workshop on the Eight Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness on the 27th of November 2014 at New Ambassador Hotel in Harare. The aim of the workshop was to review and improve on the level of preparedness of Zimbabwean CSOs in participating in the post Busan initiatives on Development Aid Effectiveness and how the Zimbabwean government can create an enabling environment for its implementation as well as CSOs engagement. The workshop was attended by 39 participants (14 women and 25 men), drawn from parliament, CSO and general citizens. Participants called on the government not to sorely depend on development aid but rather mobilize resources domestically such as using natural resources like diamonds to finance wages and finance other sectors such as health.

### 4.3 Campaigns, Movement Building and Networking

#### 4.3.1 Regional SADC People's Summits

As a build up towards the 2014 SADC People's Summit, ZIMCODD dedicated the month of July 2014 to mobilize, engage and drum up support from social movement organizations in Zimbabwe. ZIMCODD managed to conduct four regional Peoples' Summits in Mutare, Bulawayo, Harare and Victoria Falls. The regional Summits were held under the theme **“Our Resources our Future: Towards the 2014 SADC People Summit”**. In all the meetings, the Zimbabwean citizenry came up with Declarations that were shared at the main SADC Peoples' Summit held from 15-16 August 2014. The main aim was to give different social movements space to voice their concerns and consolidate these into a strong Zimbabwe voice for the SADC people Summit.



Matabeleland North SADC People Summit



Mutare SADC People's Summit

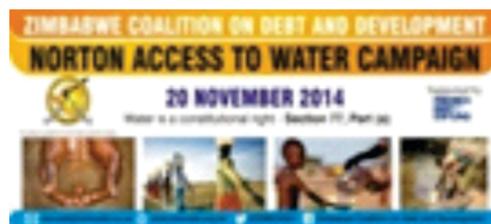
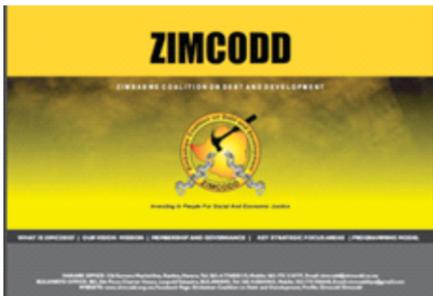
#### 4.3.2 SADC People's Summit Review Meetings

ZIMCODD conducted two post- SADC People Summit meetings of the 2014 SADC People's Summit that was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2014. The meetings were held in Bulawayo and Harare respectively.

A review meeting for the SAPSN Coordinating Committee was held in Johannesburg South Africa on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Bulawayo summit, and start brainstorm for the 2015 SADC Summit to be held in Botswana. ZIMCODD was commended for steering an unsurpassed summit since 2006.

## 5.0 Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

The ICT facilitates effective communication on ZIMCODD activities with stakeholders through production of public relations materials, regular information updates, and production of various media material.



### 5.1 SEJA Training Manuals

ZIMCODD developed SEJA training manuals which were used during the CPED meetings. The purpose of the manuals is to acquaint SEJAs to gain profound knowledge on the key focus areas of ZIMCODD.

### 5.2 Position papers

ZIMCODD produced the Mbada Diamonds<sup>12</sup> Position Paper where the organisation in response to the Mbada Diamonds financial press statement published on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2014.

### 5.3 Policy briefs

ZIMCODD published a policy brief entitled, *Enhancing a Disability Inclusive Policy Environment through the Effective Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPWDs)*. The policy brief came as a response to the positive step taken by Zimbabwe to ratify the UN Convention in September 2013.

ZIMCODD produced press statements which were shared with its members and policy makers. Below are the statements which were issued.

- Statement on the setting up of the Zimbabwe Debt Management Office-(The Standard of August 3-9 2014)
- Statement on the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Debt Assumption Bill-(The Standard of September 7-13 2014.)
- National debt dialogue conference press statement (ZIMCODD website)
- People's Response to Mbada Diamond's Press statement
- Harare City Council Vehicle Procurement Scandal –ZIMCODD calls for a thorough audit of the \$144, 4 million Chinese loan.
- ZIMCODD 'Stance on Justice Bhunu's judgment on the right to water.

### 5.4. ZIMCODD Website

The organization's website ([www.zimcodd.org](http://www.zimcodd.org)) has proven to be a powerful tool in educating and informing the public. The organisation continued to use social media tools such as facebook and twitter to update the organisation's membership on any developments.

<sup>12</sup>Mbada Diamonds (Private) Limited is a diamond mining company duly registered in terms of the laws in Zimbabwe. It operates in Chiadzwa, Mutare West in Zimbabwe.

**5.5 2014 Database**

As a build up towards ZIMCODD's membership in 2014, the coalition was involved in a membership drive. The coalition managed to recruit members who share the organization's vision and mission. These were drawn from sectors such as human rights, rural livelihoods, labor, disability, debt and trade, students, residents, media practitioners among other sectors. Seventy nine community based organizations were registered CBOs, 55 being national organizations and 3 regional organizations.

**5.6 Campaign Materials**

Several campaign materials were produced and these include banners, posters, brochures, calendars, T-Shirts, posters, a toolkit folder for members. Two Break free Newsletters were also published and the bulletins managed to cover topical social and economic issues. Copies have been distributed electronically as well hard copies. This has kept ZIMCODD members aware of the organization's activities.

**5.7 Social and Economic Rights score card**

As a social and economic justice coalition, ZIMCODD developed a social and economic rights score card in which duty bearers are scored according to their performance in delivering service to consumers. The score card was developed after consulting with stakeholders. Ministries assessed include the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate, Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Government, Public Works and National housing.

## 6.0 Organizational Development

*Strategic Objective: To strengthen the capacity of ZIMCODD by 2015*

The coalition conducted elective Regional and National Annual General Meetings in the first half of the year. The elections brought in fresh leadership where past office bearers' terms had ended. The 2014 AGM s were historical in that the ZIMCODD Northern and Southern regions officially co-opted the Rural Livelihoods sector into the organizational leadership.

### 6.1 Governance Meetings

#### 6.1.1 Elective Annual General Meetings

ZIMCODD renewed its governance structures, Elective General Meeting were held in the coalition's regional structures that is; Bulawayo, Harare and Mutare. The EGMs ushered in new leadership to oversee the organizational policy issues at regional level for the next two years. Mr Joy Mabenge and Ms Pauline Sibanda retained their posts uncontested as the Chairperson and vice respectively in the National Board.

#### 6.1.2 Board Orientation

In 2014 new board members were elected into office during the Annual General Meeting. A board orientation was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 at Cresta Jameson. The purpose of Board orientation is to provide important information about the organization and about the Board's roles and responsibilities. It also serves to build a working relationship among Board members that promotes ongoing support and comes to an agreement on how they will carry out their work.

## 7.0 Resource Mobilization

Resource mobilization is an ongoing activity for ZIMCODD. The organization continues to identify new partners and benefits from efforts of membership and secretariat. In 2014 the organisation managed to get new partners on adhoc contracts. ZIMCODD will also continue to encourage members to pay their contribution to the coalition's resource mobilization efforts through their subscriptions.

### ZIMCODD Expenditure Chart for the year ended 31 December 2014





