



# ZIMCODD

Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development

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



2016

# ANNUAL REPORT



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

# **2016 Annual Report**

Published By ZIMCODD  
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## ABOUT ZIMCODD

Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) is a social and economic justice coalition established in February 2000. It is dedicated to facilitating citizens' involvement, through their sectors and as activists in making public policy 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-centred 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; and
- To develop a national coalition and facilitate the building of a vibrant movement for social and economic justice.

The vision is sustainable socio-economic justice in Zimbabwe through a vibrant people based movement.



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the ZIMCODD Team, I am greatly honoured to present an outline of our performance for the period January to December 2016.

The economic and financial crisis that has hogged the country over the past two decades calls for the strengthening of a sustainable social and economic justice movement. The year 2016 was punctuated with complex political, economic and social developments. Economically, Zimbabwe continued to suffer from the liquidity crunch, currency circulation remained limited. Banks have drastically reduced cash withdrawal limits with long queues being the order of the day. Corruption remained one of the much talked about issues during the period. High profile cases of corruption were reported in the media but no prosecution has been initiated which reflects that the culture of impunity is continuing.

On the international scene, Zimbabwe continued with its reengagement efforts with its creditors. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reviewed Zimbabwe's Staff Monitored Program (SMP) and produced a report that gave the impression that the country is making progress in dealing with its economic problems. The government has already started implementing the SMP benchmarks such as cutting the wage bill. Unfortunately low level civil servants are being affected as opposed to reducing the top bureaucrats expenditure such as trips, scrapping the positions of deputy ministers, reducing the size of cabinet and reducing the number of directorship positions within ministries and also dealing with the issue of ghost workers.

Notwithstanding this difficult context, ZIMCODD managed to fulfil the 2016 work plan targets as informed by the new Strategic Plan running from 2016-2020. ZIMCODD's work under the Social and Economic Rights thematic area has resulted in active citizenship who engage with solution holders to demand accountability in areas such as Norton, Mutare, Chitungwiza and Bulawayo.

In the trade and livelihoods thematic area, the organisation continued to empower livelihood groups to improve production and economic benefits from agriculture and other economic ventures. As climate change is becoming a reality farmers have been capacitated in climate smart agriculture and this bore positive results in Gokwe where farmers got decent income from growing sesame.

In the Public finance management area the organisation continued to engage different stakeholders and the year 2016 saw the organisation being invited by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a

meeting on The Third and Final Review of the IMF Staff Monitored Program. The organisation managed to share with the fund its position on debt management issues and its recommendations. ZIMCODD has also continued to analyse the Auditor General's Reports and sharing the analysis with different stakeholders. The organisation has continued to raise awareness among its members as a way of promoting social accountability and transparency in public finance management and is now being used as a reference point on economic governance issues.

On a regional scale, ZIMCODD has managed to build a vibrant youth movement in the region through the regional debates and public speaking gala. The organisation organised the 2016 Regional Tertiary Institution debate and public speaking gala during the 2016 SADC People Summit held in Manzini, Swaziland. These debates have managed to raise economic literacy among the teachers and students themselves.

Under PRAP the organisation conducted several researches; the research findings were shared with different stakeholders and are also used by SEJAs from engagement with solution holders to demand fulfilment of social and economic rights.

The Information Communication and Technology unit continues to play a significant role in information dissemination. A number of policy briefs, position papers and press statements were published and shared amongst coalition members. New media was also extensively used for real time information dissemination.

As the curtain closes on yet another year we extend our gratitude to our Board Members for their excellent work in ensuring that the fight for social and economic justice is taken to greater heights. To our SEJAs ZIMCODD will always be indebted to you for you have ensured that projects are implemented in all areas. To our funding partners words alone cannot express our gratitude for technical support and financial resources granted to the coalition.

Last but not least, appreciation goes to the ZIMCODD Secretariat for their commitment and hard work that has always ensured that we have remained a credible and reliable source of social and economic issues as we continue to invest in people for social and economic justice during our lifetime in Zimbabwe.

**Patricia Kasiamhuru**  
**Executive Director**

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

This report summarizes the activities undertaken by the Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) for the period January to December 2016. The activities outlined in this report capture ZIMCODD's work in the following regions of operation:

- The Northern Region covering Harare Metropolitan Province, Chitungwiza, Mashonaland East - Mutoko and Goromonzi, Manicaland - Mutare and Chipinge, Mashonaland West - Norton.
- Southern Regions covering Bulawayo, Midlands - Gokwe, Matebeleland North - Binga and Matebeleland South- Matobo and Gwanda.

ZIMCODD started implementing the 2016 – 2020 strategic plan, with the following thematic areas forming the base for programme activities:

- Social and Economic Rights
- Trade Justice and Livelihoods
- Public Finance Management
- Natural Resources Governance
- Movement Building
- Organizational Development

**The programming model remained unchanged as follows:**

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

The Civic Participation and Economic Development, (CPED), Program seeks to build on and consolidate the mobilization of the peoples of Zimbabwe to champion socio-economic justice and development.

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

The PRAP involves evidence based lobby and advocacy which is seized with conducting the research in the identified areas. The research unit produces material which is utilized in the CPED program in the



training and capacity building of members. It is also used in the production of policy briefs used in policy engagements with respective authorities. The advocacy element is crucial in making the necessary engagements and preparing for pro-people advocacy campaigns.

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

ZIMCODD coordinates a number of social and economic rights campaigns on a number of issues. ZIMCODD is secretariat of the Zimbabwe Social Forum (ZSF) and focal point of the Southern Africa People's Solidarity Network (SAPSN). These are important vehicles in the movement building component. These are spaces where ZIMCODD build alliances across sectors and other social movements in promoting people's struggles for social and economic justice. The organization also participates in a number of networks locally regionally and internationally in order to advance its campaigns and activities.

### **Information Communication and Technology Program, (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. It is the vehicle that links ZIMCODD with the outside world and serves as the pulse of the organization.

## **3 ZIMCODD's 15 YEARS OF INVESTING IN PEOPLE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

Having been constituted in 2000, the ZIMCODD @15 highlights establishes the organisation's effectiveness, impact and sustainability since inception in 2000.

### **ZIMCODD @15 Highlights**

- ZIMCODD originated from the battles of poor people championed by activists in the Jubilee 2000 campaign and was instrumental in facilitating public participation around the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) initiatives.
- At the continental level, ZIMCODD facilitated linkages with other networks. In 2003, ZIMCODD spearheaded the Zimbabwe Social Forum and the Southern African People Solidarity Network (SAPSN). As the SAPSN secretariat from 2003 to 2013, ZIMCODD managed to build and strengthen the foundation for a vibrant regional social movement for social and economic justice in the region.
- ZIMCODD has been successful in facilitating citizens' participation and involvement in public policy in Zimbabwe. The SEJA model and livelihood assembly model emerge as best practices for decentralizing ZIMCODD's work and for influencing policy and practice at local level. As of 2016 ZIMCODD has 513 Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors (SEJAs) (245 females and 268 males) as the movement building efforts continue. To date ZIMCODD membership stands at 60 organisations while individual membership is at 2,238 (1,577 females and 661 males).
- ZIMCODD mobilised small scale cotton farmers and capacitated them on free farming and crop diversification, market linkages, contract and price negotiations through the Free Producers Association (FCPA).
- ZIMCODD has managed to project itself as a reference organisation in social movement, debt, social and economic justice which seeks to unmask the nexus between debt and socio-

economic injustices in Zimbabwe, the region and the globe as evidenced by consultations from Ministry of Finance, International Finance Institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), media, academics and other civil society organisations.

- In social and economic rights, our work contributed towards the inclusion of social and economic rights in Zimbabwe's Constitution adopted in 2013 embodied in Chapter 4 Bill of Rights.
- ZIMCODD was instrumental in the advocacy campaign towards the development of debt management policies and framework such as the Public Debt Management Act which passed in parliament in 2015 and the establishment of the Zimbabwe Debt Management Office within the Ministry of Finance.
- Public participation against the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Debt Assumption Act in 2014 to 2015 showcase how citizens have been capacitated to engage on Debt issues and demand accountability from solution holders.
- We have established enduring relationships with funding partners who share the same anti neo-liberal ideology and are inclined towards people centered development preferences.

# 4

## REPORT SUMMARY BY THEMATIC AREA AND PROGRAMMING MODEL

### 4.1 Social and Economic Rights

**Strategic Objective:** To promote the realisation of social and economic rights as enshrined in the constitution, for the progressive fulfilment of the rights and ensure that relevant Acts of parliament are duly realigned to the constitution by 2020.

ZIMCODD continues to promote the realisation of social and economic rights in the constitution as part of strategies towards sustainable social and economic justice in Zimbabwe. ZIMCODD seeks to track, monitor and advocate for the implementation of the constitutional provisions. It popularises, engages and builds capacity of citizens and policy makers on social and economic rights. Although the constitution have these progressive provision, there are claw back clauses which infringe on the full realisation of social and economic rights. Hence the need for continued engagement, lobby and advocacy for the fulfilment of SER.

### 4.2 Civic Participation and Economic Development, (CPEDs)

#### **ZIMCODD Participation in the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (IPRSPs) Meetings**

Zimbabwe has developed an I-PRSP which a step towards accessing new loans. In order to ensure that the voice of the people is captured ZIMCODD facilitated citizens participation through mobilising citizens to participate in the process. A total of 28 ZIMCODD SEJAs participated at the IPRSPs consultative meetings in Harare, Mutare and Bulawayo. The major concern for ZIMCODD is the failure of PRSP in other countries that have implemented them. The SEJAs demands during the I-PRSPAs the government carried out the I-PRSP consultative process, ZIMCODD included the following,

- The government should commission an official debt audit to establish how much is owed, the purpose and condition under which loans were given, disbursement methods, whether objectives were met, charges other than interest and benefits and if any benefits accrued to citizens,

- The government should learn from other sub-Saharan countries that have gone through the HIPC process to avoid falling in the same pitfalls that have seen poverty levels in other HIPC initiative rise- this is so due to the focus on economic growth in quantitative terms without focusing on practical citizens livelihoods,
- The government should avail to the citizenry the I-PRSP consultative framework that it has designed to facilitate full participation of the citizens in the whole process,
- The IMF staff should not interfere with the consultative processes and should accept and include the views of Zimbabweans for the I-PRSP to be legitimate,
- Civil society and other interest groups should be capacitated to be able to monitor the I-PRSP process from inception to implementation,
- Parliamentary oversight role in the whole process should be strengthened through regular updates on the debt strategy implementation according to the provisions the Constitution and the Public Debt Act,
- In the event of a full PSRP, the government should come up with a PRSP that will ensure that the country does not plunge into huge debt as efforts are made to re-engage with the IFIs and other bilateral partners.

The final IPRSP has been completed but ZIMCODD reiterates that the government should come up with a PRSP that will ensure that the country does not plunge further into huge debt as efforts are being made to re-engage with the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and other bilateral partners. The GoZ should come up with its own strategy arising from local mobilisation of Natural Resources which are in abundance and avoid accruing more debt.

## **Results**

*As a result of this participation ZIMCODD managed to register the concerns of the people which were considered by the Ministry of Finance who are responsible for the I-PRSP. ZIMCODD is now seized with monitoring the implementation of the I-PRSP to ensure that it does not infringe on SER.*

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

### **Research on 'Access to the Right to Health'**

The research was undertaken under the title, 'Access to the Right to Health: The Case of Chitungwiza Central Hospital under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Agreement to investigate the impact of

PPPs on access to health. The research revealed that whilst the services at the hospital had improved (availability of hospital machinery, equipment and drugs), affordability of health care services was the new challenge as most residents who receive health care from the hospital can no longer afford. The research also analysed the health policy in Zimbabwe and concluded that there was little political will by the Government to ensure that health care provision in the country was equally accessible and affordable as the right of every citizen. For example, the health budgetary trends from 2012 to 2016 show that the budget allocated to the Ministry of Health and Child Care has been falling every year and they do not tally with the 15% allocation of national budget the Health sector as ratified in the Abuja Declaration.

## **Feedback and Policy Dialogue Meetings on the PPP Research**

As a follow up to the research, ZIMCODD held a feedback meeting to share the research findings with the community members in Chitungwiza. Attendance was by 227 participants comprising 143 females and 86 males to disseminate information from the research findings report with Chitungwiza residents. The residents called for an urgent dialogue with the Chitungwiza General Hospital administrators and policy makers. Present also were solution holders including four Legislatures from Chitungwiza, four Councillors (including members of the Finance and Health committees of the council), civil society, Community Based Organisations and individual social activists. Unfortunately, the Hospital staff excused themselves for the policy dialogue at the last minute. Despite the absence of the hospital officials, the ZIMCODD health monitoring committee has continued to engage the hospital officials to keep abreast with community concerns.

## **Citizens First Forum (CIFFO) Project**

During the period under review ZIMCODD constituted a consortium to implement the CIFFO project with National Vendors Union of Zimbabwe (NAVUZ) and Citizens' Collective Voice for Social Change (CCVSC), ZIMCODD was the lead organisation. Project activities were implemented in Norton, Mutare, Harare, Bulawayo, Chinhoyi and Murambinda. The project was premised on the postulation that there is no culture of demanding the respect of constitutionalism in Zimbabwe. The project was meant to strategically mobilise citizens, who are mostly in the informal sector – estimated to be 90% of the employable population, in holding the duty bearers accountable through creating a conducive constitutional order for the sector and citizens at large.

Under this project the following activities were carried out;

## **Leadership and Communication Training Forums**

Six (6) trainings were done in the six project areas of Chinhoyi, Murambinda, Bulawayo, Mutare, Harare and Norton. A total of 316 CIFFO leaders were trained (190 females and 126 males). Training objectives were to capacitate participants on community leadership, communication and mobilisation; human rights awareness; advocacy for the protection of constitutionalism; and demanding governance accountability from local and national Government authorities. The Social and Economic Rights Toolkit provided guidelines throughout the training forum. In Norton it was encouraging that policy makers from the Local Authorities were represented by Ms. Precious Mufahore, Norton Town Council Chairperson who attended the training.

### **Results**

*Leadership trained through CIFFO were able to independently conduct membership trainings reported below in Murambimbinda, Chinhoyi, Norton, Mutare, Harare and Bulawayo.*

## **Membership Training Forums**

Six (6) membership trainings under CIFFO were conducted as follow-up to the Leadership and Communication trainings. The membership training aim at enhancing citizens' awareness on constitutionalism, human rights and constitutional awareness. The Membership trainings were conducted in Murambinda (58 participants), Chinhoyi (68 participants), Norton (78 participants), Mutare (60 participants) and Bulawayo (53 participants). The trainings were led by CIFFO leadership who had initially been trained under the leadership training activities. CIFFO leaders demonstrated enough capacity in community leadership and communication skills and human rights and Constitutional awareness.

### **Results**

*CBOs and social movement members are now able to engage in actions demanding enforcement of rights in an informed manner for example CIFFO leaders submitted petitions in Bulawayo, Harare, Norton and Murambinda.*

## 4.4 Policy, Research and Advocacy (PRAP)

Six lobby and Advocacy Meetings were conducted in 2016 to provide a platform where duty bearers meet with right holders to deliberate on issues meant to enhance the realisation of social and economic rights. The major issues raised include poor service delivery, lack of transparency and accountability land distribution in areas such as Murambinda growth point, Norton and Chinhoyi.

In the target areas duty bearers who attended the policy dialogues meeting included Deputy Director of Housing and Social Services, Mr. Rambiyano from Norton Town Council and five Councillors from various wards in Norton, Councillor T. Nhamarare the Mayor for the city of Mutare, three headmen and six kraal heads from Buhera Rural District, three councillors from Chinhoyi Town Council, in Harare the Mayor for Harare, Councillor Manyenyeni and in Bulawayo city council staff members from the social services department. This allowed residents to interface with policy makers to air their concerns in various areas.

### **As a result of the trainings and policy dialogues the following actions were taken by the citizens;**

- In Norton, Norton Residents Association (NORA) members submitted a petition to Norton Town Council for the suspension of a contract to Mangwana Legal Practitioners (debt collectors). As a success story, the 2017 budget for Norton Town Council suspended the contract for Mangwana Legal Practitioners in order to give residents the discretion of how they can pay their debts in a manner that is affordable.
- Norton house rates were reduced from \$9.50 to \$5.00 per month and refuse collection and water supply improved. Public service delivery has improved in terms of water supply and collection of refuse.
- In Harare a Petition was submitted to the City of Harare Municipality urging the institution to stop violating vendors' rights;
- In Bulawayo a petition was submitted to Bulawayo City Council demanding fair treatment of informal traders by the authority;
- In Murambinda, CIFFO members, after realising their SEC rights, petitioned local authorities and Chiefs demanding that they stop corrupt land deals at the expense of rural villagers. Currently the traditional leaders are consulting their communities first before implementing any developments to do with land in Buhera district. There is still need though to continue engaging local authorities who are still not transparent in dealing with public resources



## 4.5 Information Communication and Technology Program, (ICT)

### Press Statements

ZIMCODD produced a commentary statement on Traveller's Rebate (*Statutory Instrument No. 148 of 2015*). The statement was shared among different stakeholders and The Herald managed to publish a story on the statement on the 21st of January 2016. The statement raised key social and economic injustices that arise from Statutory Instrument Number 148 of 2015 (Customs and Excise [General Amendment] regulations (No 80) through which the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ) revised travellers rebate from \$300 to \$200 and removed rebate on travellers in public transport.

### Results

A major milestone of these advocacy efforts by ZIMCODD and other stakeholders is the reinstatement of duty rebate on public transport users. <http://www.herald.co.zw/govt-restores-rebate-for-all/>

### Publications



*Social-Economic and Cultural Rights Tool kit and the Community Mobilisation Toolkit*

The Social-economic and cultural rights tool kit and Community Mobilisation Tool Box were used in training community members to increase community awareness of the idea of constitutionalism and SEC rights guaranteed under the Constitution of Zimbabwe.

### Results

Materials developed through CIFFO, SEC Rights Toolkit, was effectively utilised by various CBOs and social movements to be capacitated to engage in actions demanding enforcement of rights in an informed manner.

# 5

## TRADE JUSTICE AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS

**Strategic Objective:** To strengthen the capacity of livelihood groups for fair and just production trade justice and marketing alternatives for sustainable livelihoods by 2020.

This thematic area focuses on empowering livelihood groups to improve production and economic benefits from agriculture and other economic ventures that communities undertake. Over the years ZIMCODD has learnt that farmers and traders lack capacity to negotiate for fair contracts and prices for their produce and wares hence the need to build livelihood groups capacity , network with markets for sustainable livelihoods.



*:: Gokwe women farmers harvesting their sesame*



*:: Sesame being loaded for the market*

### 5.1 Livelihoods Assemblies Updates – Gokwe, Matobo, Binga and Chipinge

ZIMCODD work in Gokwe over the past years include capacity building on marketing and trade, crop diversification social and economic rights. Farmers in Gokwe have fully embraced sesame growing as part of crop diversification to improve their livelihoods following a sharp price decline for their traditional cotton crop. In 2014, about 112 farmers started to grow Sesame which is less demanding in

terms of labour and inputs but with high rewards. During the 2015-2016 farming season, the number of sesame farmers increased to 176 (98 males and 78 females). For a hectare of sesame farmers used inputs worth \$103 covering seed, chemicals, weeding and harvesting labour. Average yield per hectare depending on management ranged from 800 kilograms to 1,500 kilograms. Farmers managed to get lucrative market with Sidella Trading who bought the sesame for \$0,70c per kilogram as compared to the \$0.30c per kilogram they used to get for cotton. Translating to an average of \$700 worth of yield per hectare. Growing sesame has brought positive change to the farmers' livelihoods, most of them were indebted to cotton contracting companies but they have progressed to be profitable farmers.

In Matobo, the major issue was in small scale farmers land dispossession. Small scale farmers have been served with eviction notices to pave way for a private investor, Trek and Agriculture Rural Development Authority (ARDA). ZIMCODD SEJAs remained active and were part of the villagers who were advocating for the reversal of eviction orders. Police barred the villagers from holding a peaceful demonstration to submit a petition to the district land offices to appeal for the reversal of eviction orders and about 40 people were arrested and later released.

In Chipinge the farming season was severely affected by the drought which hit Southern Africa countries for the 2015-2016 season. Communities explored other opportunities for income generations such as village saving and lending scheme and quail bird farming.

The livelihoods committee in Binga continue to work tirelessly in trying to normalize relations between fish farmers and relevant stakeholders in Binga. The committee has managed to engage with Parks and Wildlife on behalf of the community, from the engagement the committee has reported improved working environment and relations with local authorities.

## **Results**

- *In the period 2015 - 2016, incomes more than doubled for small scale farmers who grew Sesame. Sesame fetched a higher price of USD0.68C per kg whilst cotton fetched USD0.30c per kg.*
- *Collaboration with the Agriculture Extension Department has enabled farmers to receive technical support from AGRITEX officers such as Tendai Masora and Mr Watson Chitupa in Gokwe for better production.*

## 5.2 Pre Planting Meeting - Farmers' Symposium



*Members of parliament follow proceedings during the Farmer pre-planting meeting*

In preparation for the 2017 agricultural season ZIMCODD facilitated a pre-planting meeting on the 20th October 2016 for small scale farmers and key stakeholders for resilient livelihoods under the theme, 'Livelihoods Transformation through Small Scale Farming in Zimbabwe'. The meeting brought together 41 participants (19 women and 22 men). Farmers and stakeholders in the agricultural sector such as the meteorological department shared technical advice on how farmers can adapt to emerging challenges such as climate change. Other stakeholders included stakeholders from the Agricultural Marketing Association (AMA), Ministry of Agriculture, Meteorological Department, Members of Parliament (MP), and the Parliamentary Portfolio committee on Agriculture and seed companies. Several mitigation strategies that include appropriate seed varieties selection, conservation farming and mixed farming were discussed with the farmers. The meeting also managed to clarify on the misconceptions around command agriculture<sup>1</sup>. There was a misconception by small scale farmers that they were going to be allocated inputs from the government hence the clarification assisted them in their planning for the season.

<sup>1</sup> The programme is targeting small to medium-scale farmers with a history of good yields in high potential areas of the country while in low potential areas irrigating farmers and small irrigation schemes will be considered for inputs support. Command agriculture supported farmers are expected to deliver at least 5mt/ha to the Grain Marketing Board (GMB).

### 5.3 Organizing Vendors for Social Change II (OVESOC II) Project

Under the Trade Justice and Livelihoods theme ZIMCODD implemented the OVESOC II project, which ended in March 2016, sought to mobilise and organise women vendors into Livelihoods Assemblies (LAs)<sup>2</sup> and Solidarity Economy Groups (SEGs)<sup>3</sup> in order to build their capacity to lead as well as organise their respective groups to engage solution holders at both local and national levels on challenges faced by women in the vending enterprise.

#### **The Following activities were implemented under this project;**

Four (4) Training of Trainers induction trainings were successfully implemented in Goromonzi Service Centre, Domboshava, Mutoko and Chikwaka service centre. A total of four (4) Livelihood Assemblies (LAs) were established in these target areas to mobilize and engage the community on issues affecting women vendors and communication and dialoguing with relevant stakeholders in the sector.

#### **Livelihoods Assembly (LA) - Led Trainings**

The trained LAs leaders were able to conduct ten (10) Livelihoods Assemblies-led trainings in the project areas, participants were women vendors from Goromonzi and Mutoko districts. These trainings reached out to 599 other women in the vending enterprise.

#### **Results**

*In Mutoko, the LAs are recognised by Mutoko Rural District Council as a structure that represents the interests of informal traders. The LAs leadership, comprised of 5 members, had a meeting in April 2016 where they recommended that Council should formalise vending at Mutoko Centre to improve vendors' livelihoods. Mutoko Council officials then endorsed the LAs to train other vendors at Mutoko Centre on social and economic rights and entrepreneurship to formalise their operations through registering with the Ministry of SMEs.*

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<sup>2</sup> The Livelihoods Assemblies are structures that will be established in the targeted areas to spearhead the mobilisation of the vendors around their critical issues. These will be trained in leadership skills, coordination, communication and mobilisation skills. The leaders will be drawn from the ZIMCODD already existing members in the areas.

<sup>3</sup> Solidarity Economy Groups will be established too made up of women vendors in the area. The main purpose of these groups will be to foster a culture of working together as vendors instead of competing thereby weakening their potential as entrepreneurs. The members will pull their resources together for marketing of their products.

- In Chikwaka and Goromonzi Service Centres, LAs attended the 2017 Local Authorities Budget Consultation Meetings in October 2016 and recommended the following:
- That the Local Authorities prioritise health, education and service delivery in the 2017 budgets;
  - That Local Authorities comply with the 30/70% allocation between salaries and community development projects; and
  - That Local Authorities manage public resources and finances effectively and efficiently.



Goromonzi Livelihoods Assembly Group

## Solidarity Economy Group (SEG) Trainings and Organisation

In order to build business capacity of the women, six (6) SEGs Trainings and Organisation were conducted. The trainings facilitated the formation of 12 SEGs from individual vendors into organised entrepreneurs and formation of SEGs, who engage solution holders from the business side. The trainings were conducted by Business Development Officers from the Ministry of SMEsCD. SEGs were grouped according to their specialised trades. LAs and SEGs appreciated these meetings which promoted their business efforts to grow from street vendors to entrepreneurs and investors, which most vendors are anticipating in the future of their businesses.

## Results

12 operational SEGs were established and they are engaging with solution holder during policy interface meetings and council budget hearings to defend their sources of livelihood.

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



#### **OVESOC II Research on trends, opportunities faced by vending communities in Mutoko and Goromonzi districts**

ZIMCODD commissioned a research on Trends, Opportunities which brought key issues in the vending sector in Goromonzi and Mutoko Districts. Major research issues discussed were that:

- *Vending is the main activity and source of income for the target communities;*
- *Legal and policy frameworks have not changed to recognise vending as a formal business;*

The Ministry of SMEsCD highlighted that the Cooperative Policy was undergoing review to suit the current economic environment.

- *Vendors were operating as individuals and had no representative. They need to be organised to leverage engagement with solution holders as well as access markets and capital;*

The Ministry of SMEsCD recommended that rural women vendors establish Vendors Associations to represent vendors at local and national levels.

- *Politicians are taking vendors as opportunities to further political interests, causing polarization in the sector;*

Vendors were advised to desist from politicizing vending as this hampers social and economic development.

- *Rural councils have the opportunities to increase their revenue base whilst enabling communities to earn decent living if they promote the vending sector; and*
- *There is need to amplify vendor voices, advocacy for policy and regulatory frameworks changes and formulation, training and skills development and financing of vendor projects.*

The research findings were shared during a lobby meeting held on the 24 March 2016 at New Ambassador Hotel in Harare with 260 participants including women vendors, local authorities and traditional leaders from Goromonzi and Mutoko districts.

## **Policy Interface Meetings**

Four (4) policy interface meetings were held in Goromonzi and Mutoko districts targeting duty bearers who included councillors and government ministries in order to provide a platform where women vendors meet with solution holders to discuss issues affecting the vending enterprise as well as to find the way forward for a sustainable vending enterprise. Issues include high vending stall fees they were paying to council, lack of safe and suitable working space. Solution holders in the four meetings responded to the issues raised by women vendors and promised to address them working together with the vendors themselves to come up with sustainability plans to promote the vending sector for community development.

### **Results**

- *As a result duty bearers committed to address the issue of high vending stall rates and encouraged vendors to establish vendors associations for organised engagements.*
- *Vendors in Domboshava have formed vendors associations to engage with duty bearers as called upon during the policy interface meetings.*

## **Solidarity Economic Groups (SEG) Stakeholders Meetings**

Four SEGs Stakeholder meetings were conducted in Goromonzi, Chikwaka, Mutoko and Domboshavato address the need by women vendors to grow their businesses through inspiration by local and national successful women entrepreneurs who started as vendors.

### **Results**

*The establishment of SEGs has reduced unnecessary competition amongst the vendors through working in groups and SEGs into vegetable vending have significantly reduced operational costs through leveraging on economies of scale.*



## OVESOC End of Project Evaluation

At the end of the project ZIMCODD carried out an end of project evaluation which brought out the following lessons:

- Vendors require start-up capital in addition to training. ZIMCODD should give pointers where capital can be obtained or even provide as part of the project interventions
- There is need for more capacity building on proposal writing, business management and association leadership
- ZIMCODD to increase frequency of monitoring especially for new groups that require more interactive time and face teething problems.
- ZIMCODD to facilitate linkages between farmers and other stakeholders. These could be horizontal and vertical linkages that promote value addition.



*A participant presenting during the end of project evaluation*

## 5.5 Campaigns, Social Movement Building and Networking

### Women Vendors Database

The OVESOC Project reached out to about 1,000 women vendors in Goromonzi and Mutoko districts in a period of six (6) months during which the project was implemented. A database was compiled to

capture details of the project participants for monitoring and information dissemination ease. The project managed to establish relations with the following stakeholders such as Ministry Small to Medium Enterprises and Cooperative Development (SMEsCD): Trained women vendors on cooperative and business development as well as entrepreneurship; Wadzana Community Development Trust (WCDT) assisted in mobilising women vendors and venue provision.

## International Women's Day Public Event on Securing Rural Women's Land

The Zimbabwe Land and Agrarian Network (ZiLAN)<sup>4</sup> organised an International Women's Day Public Event on Securing Rural Women's Land Rights which was held on the 26th of April 2016 under the theme "Pledge for Parity for Rural Women's Land Access. The event facilitated the amplification of women's voices in advocating for their land rights. Discussions included how important the constitution was in protecting women's rights in circumstances like land issues in the event of divorce and remarriage, land allocation and the role of traditional leadership.

- Action plans on Land Rights for women in the rural areas was drafted for follow up with the Ministry of Lands

## 5.6 Information Communication and Technology (ICT)

### Organising Vendors for Social Change Training Manual (in English and Shona)

The training manual seeks to capacitate women vendors to engage with solution holders on issues affecting the vending enterprise to protect their livelihoods. The manual was used during the OVESOC II project activities in Mutoko and Goromonzi.



### Voices from the Pavements Booklet.

The book, *Voices from the Pavements*, captures various stories by vendors in Mutare, Harare, Bulawayo, Chitungwiza, Norton, Goromonzi and Mutoko. The book was disseminated to communities, civil groups and policy makers in order to raise the plight of informal traders.

<sup>4</sup> ZiLAN is an initiative developed by AIAS. ZIMCODD is the current chair of the network.

## 6 PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT (PFM)

**Strategic Objective:** To promote social accountability and transparency in public finance management in Zimbabwe by 2020.

This thematic area embodies debt management, tax justice, budget processes and development financing effectiveness. This thematic area contributes towards improved public finance management for effective development and improved social accountability.

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

#### Students Economic Forum<sup>5</sup> - NUST Students

ZIMCODD launched the Students Economic Forum (SEF) in 2016 to build the capacities students/youths in tertiary institutions on PFM so that they are able to engage with duty bearers. The inaugural SEF was held with students from National University of Science and Technology (NUST) students were 45 participants (31 males and 14 females) participated. Discussions focused on topical issues including PFM, Tax Justice, Illicit Financial Flows and their link with Social and Economic Rights.

#### Results

- *There was generated interest among students, and students from the media department did a story which was published in the Newsday*
- *These students remain critical in ZIMCODD programmes including debates.*

#### Open Budget Process Exchange Workshop

To improve public accountability in local council budget process ZIMCODD organised an exchange meeting on open budget processes where Mhondoro-Ngezi rural district council shared with

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<sup>5</sup> *Students Economic Forum is a platform where ZIMCODD engages with students in tertiary institutions to build economic literacy on Public Finance Management and give students space to proffer alternatives.*

Chitungwiza, Norton and Goromonzi ZIMCODD members on best practices on citizens engagement in budget processes. Council officials from Norton, Chitungwiza and Goromonzi also participated. The workshop was held on the 3rd of November 2016 and attended by 25 participants from Goromonzi, Norton and Chitungwiza to facilitate exchange learning with Mhondoro-Ngezi Rural district council which has been identified as a case study for open budgeting. Key issues discussed during the meeting were to do with Public Finance Management Best Practices, open Budget Process Lessons from Mhondoro-Ngezi RDC, Gender Responsive Budgeting and Constitutionalism.

### **Results**

- *Women from the three project areas had the opportunity to demand open budget process and gender responsive budgeting from their duty bearers (local authorities)*
- *The Mhondoro-Ngezi open budget approach challenged other local authorities to re-strategise their approaches in order to have participatory and gender responsive budgeting processes.*
- *Public officials from the three local authorities realised the limiting factors in their budgeting processes, though with some resistance from Goromonzi RDC officials. However, in the subsequent dialogue meeting held in Goromonzi, the perception of council officials towards communities had changed for the better.*

### **Training of Public Officials on Public Finance Management**

ZIMCODD facilitated a training workshop held in Norton on 30 August 2016 that targeted the public officials and the residents on public finance management. The purpose of the training was to prepare the officials and residents for the 2017 budget processes. The participants were trained and subsequently urged to effectively participate during the 2017 local and national budget consultative meetings as well as at all the related processes. The meeting was attended by the town council members of staff, councillors and residents.

### **Results**

- *After the meeting, the residents went on to actively participate during the subsequent national and local budget public hearing meetings held.*
- *The residents were able to raise pertinent issues. For instance, the SEJAs continually raise the need to ensure that more resources were channelled towards service delivery instead of salaries as stipulated by the law. They also urged the council to cancel the contract of debt collectors engaged to collect water bills from the residents that were outstanding. The subsequent Norton has budget proposed the non-renewal of that contract.*

## Budget Consultative Meetings

### Local Budgets Dialogue Meetings

ZIMCODD members participated in council budget consultative meetings in Bulawayo, Mutare, Norton, Goromonzi and Chitungwiza. In Goromonzi, Norton and Chitungwiza, participants were mainly women and few selected male key informants well versed with public finance management issues. The male key informants' added value to the meeting through participation and learning on the gender responsive budget (GRB) so that in future budget consultations, they will rally behind women in support for GRB.

The ZIMCODD position paper prepared for the exercise was well articulated by the SEJAs during these meetings. Before, the budgets had been submitted to the Minister for approval, three dialogue meetings were held in selected local authorities (Goromonzi, Chitungwiza and Norton) to discuss the status of the budget proposals.

### Results:

- *Working relationships were cultivated between the councils and the community members. In Goromonzi, prior to the meetings, there was no direct working relationship and there existed suspicions between the community members in Yafele Village and the Council Technocrats. There was clear improvement on this after the meetings.*
- *Project participants utilised the platforms to demand accountability in the budgeting processes by their local authorities.*

### National Budget Consultative Meetings

ZIMCODD coordinated the membership for participation during the national public budget meetings held in Harare, Goromonzi and Mutare (12 September 2016). A position paper with ZIMCODD recommendations had been circulated to the members for use during the meetings. In Goromonzi, it was the first time that the ZIMCODD members participated in such national meetings. One SEJA from Chitungwiza, Mr. Mangwende openly challenged the Parliamentary Committee to “consider the people’s wishes and not to throw them away when they do the final budget...” Mr. Mangwende was so confident in his contributions and clearly articulated the ZIMCODD position on debt as it is linked to the general public finance management issues.

The final budget presented by Hon Chinamasa on 8 December, showed that the government had

listened to the aspirations of the people. The issue of debt management was given the attention it deserves. A whole chapter was set aside for the debt management issues showing the importance and urgency of the matter on the part of the government following stakeholders' advocacy on the issue, the government also showed that it cannot continue to give conservative figures about the size of the debt- it opened up to reality although we still need to do an official audit of it. The government further conceded that indeed domestic debt was as a result of RBZ debt assumption thereby vindicating ZIMCODD and the public as they have always recommended against assumption.

**Results:**

- *Hon Dr. Tapiwa Mashakada, a member of the Public Accounts Parliamentary Portfolio Committee which conducts the meetings publicly appreciated the high quality contributions of the ZIMCODD members particularly in Mutare where he singled out a ZIMCODD SEJA, Jonathan Memory Chindewere.*
- *Debt challenges in the country clearly acknowledged in the 2017 Budget especially effects of the RBZ debt assumption to the domestic debt burden.*

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

### **Analysis of the 2015 Auditor General's (AG's) Report**

ZIMCODD analysed the 2015 AG's Report and developed a policy brief which outlines information on financial mismanagement cases highlighted in the 2015 AG's Report to assist citizens to raise their voice and demand action to stop internal illicit financial flows that prejudice their social and economic rights (SERs).

### **Dialogue Meeting on The 2015 AG's Report**

A dialogue meeting was held on the 13th of October 2016 at ZIMCODD offices. The meeting was attended by 56 (32 females and 24 males) participants, ZIMCODD SEJAs and representative from the Ministry of Finance, Members of Parliament, Media and representatives from Civil Society Organizations. The meeting provided a forum for stakeholders to discuss public finance management issues in Zimbabwe using the Auditor General's reports.

After the ZIMCODD meeting, using the public interest litigation approach as a basis for legal standing, a ZIMCODD SEJA Hardlife Mudzingwa approached the High Court seeking to have Professor Jonathan

Moyo brought before the court to answer to allegations of corruption involving public funds. In an article called <http://www.herald.co.zw/high-court-approached-for-ministers-arrest/>



*Participants follow proceedings during the meeting*

## **Debt and Extractives Public Meeting**

Under the debt and extractives initiative ZIMCODD held a public meeting in Harare on the IMF's staff monitored programme report which commended Zimbabwe on progress towards meeting its overdue arrears payment. The public meeting was attended by the political parties and civil society. It was meant to discuss the implications of the IMF's SMP Report, loss of the US\$ 15 billion diamond money and generally the debt crisis in Zimbabwe. After the meeting ZIMCODD went on to publish a position paper on the SMP, this was shared with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Finance, the International Monetary Fund, the media and ZIMCODD's membership.

In Bulawayo a similar meeting was held and saw ZIMCODD's different sectors and stakeholders including the Member of Parliament Hon. Phelela Masuku and Councillor Silas Chigora attending (43 people attended- 30 males and 13 females). The meeting was aimed at influencing public finance governance and management in Zimbabwe, to increase citizens' awareness and knowledge on tax justice and debt in Zimbabwe, to broaden and deepen analysis of public finance; and governance/management and tax justice.

## Results

The Ministry of Finance has acknowledged ZIMCODD's submissions and has promised to invite the organization for other key economic governance processes such as the National budget consultation. (Letter attached).

## Meeting with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Officials

ZIMCODD continues to be a reference organization on debt issues in Zimbabwe, in 2016 the organization was invited by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for two meetings (8 March and 16 May 2016) which were also attended by the coalition's political leadership and other civic organisations at the Fund's Offices in Harare. ZIMCODD shared with the fund the organization's position on debt management issues and recommendations for the key stakeholders. The result of the meeting was the strengthening of dialogue between the IMF and ZIMCODD.

## 6.3 Information Communication and Technology Program, (ICT)

### Tax Trends and Debt Fact Sheet

The tax trends and debt fact sheet were published in the first and second quarters of 2016. The publication made an analysis of the 2016 first and second quarter tax revenues and the country's debt profile respectively. The pamphlets provide in-depth information through scrutinising of Zimbabwe's tax administration, major revenue heads, trends and distributional implications for purposes of informing and defending public interests for use by citizens in engaging with duty bearers. The papers were also shared with the media fraternity during a breakfast meeting as part of efforts to raise awareness on tax justice in Zimbabwe.



:: Tax Trends Publication



:: Debt Fact Sheet Publication



## **Results**

*Citizens have key information for engagement, the publication were used by ZIMCODD members during budget consultative meetings.*

## **Media Sensitization Workshops on Tax Justice**

Media engagement is a strategy ZIMCODD uses to promote public information dissemination. Two media sensitization meetings were held in Bulawayo and Harare on the issue of debt and tax. The debt fact sheet and the tax trends analysis papers were explained and distributed at the meetings.

### **Results:**

- Coverage of the debt and tax issues made by media houses such as Newsday, Star FM and Radio Zimbabwe among other media houses throughout the year reflects appreciation of their importance.
- News Day 05/09/16.  
<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2016/09/05/zim-tax-system-favours-companies/>
- Tax Payers major funders of Zim's Fiscus- Radio Dialogue 07/09/16.  
<http://www.radiodialogue.com/taxpayers-major-funders-zims-fiscus/>

## **Press Statements**

ZIMCODD issues a number of press statements related to public finance management in reaction to developments in the country. These include ZIMCODD response to the Final Review on the IMF Staff Monitored Programme, statement on Cash Crisis, Bond Notes and the Zimbabwe's Economy: The Real Problem noted the failure by the government to ensure transparency and accountability.



## NATURAL RESOURCES GOVERNANCE

**Strategic Objective:** To establish standards in natural resource governance, promote transparency, accountability by 2020

The natural resources governance thematic area is driven by the realisation that communities are not deriving meaningful benefits from the exploitation of natural resources in their areas, furthermore the sector lacks transparency. ZIMCODD builds capacity and organize citizens for effective participation in broad based natural resource governance thus beyond mines and minerals for the greater benefit of local communities and the Zimbabwean populace.

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

#### Alternative Mining Indabas

ZIMCODD in collaboration with the ZELA and ZCC convened four alternative mining indaba starting with provincial indabas in Midlands, Manicaland and Matebeleland. These were followed by the national Zimbabwe Alternative Mining Indaba (ZAMI). At these platforms ZIMCODD facilitate community participation in natural resources governance for social and economic benefit of communities. The 2016 ZAMI theme was 'Mining Sector Reforms: A Call for Economic, Social and Environmental Justice'. The theme was inspired by ZIMCODD campaign the "Investor I want" which calls for responsible business practices that enhance people's social and economic lives. Collaboration with ZELA and ZCC is cost effective and helps all organisations to benefit from each other's networks, to mobilise the best experts in the natural resources and mining sectors. The Investor I Want Campaign which was initiated in 2015 by ZIMCODD allowed the host communities to spell out their expectations from investors. These include issues of local content development, respect to environmental and human rights among other issues. The ZAMIs are a platform for community members, local leaders, government and mining companies to dialogue on mining related issues that are relevant to the local context. Some of the issues raised include;

#### Issues discussed at AMIs

- The need to legislate corporate social responsibility for enhanced community development.

- Communities called for the scrapping of unnecessary mining tax incentives that deprive the country of potential revenue for social and economic development
- Mining sector should enhance local content development through creation of employment for host communities, enterprise development, skills development and transfer
- Call for investors who respect social, economic and environmental rights of local communities. The AMIs complimented ZIMCODD's Investor I Want Campaign.



Participants during the Great Dyke Alternative Mining Indaba

## Results

The ZAMI 2016 crafted the following recommendations which were submitted to Ministry of Mines and Mining Development:

- Call for establishment of an Environmental Court to superintend over cases of environmental injustice.
- Mandatory listing of all companies on the Stock Exchange to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Review the country's laws and policies to be in harmony with the Africa Mining Vision
- Review of tax regime that is creating inequality between small and large scale miners
- Call to Government departments to act on Auditor General's findings and recommendations
- EIA to have a strong climate change impact assessment

The organisers will follow up on the declaration submitted and progress will be shared at the 2017 Provincial Alternative Mining Indabas and ZAMI.

## Youth Symposium on Mining



The Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) in collaboration with the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA) and the Publish What You Pay Coalition organized Youth Symposium on Mining as a forerunner to the 2016 Zimbabwe Alternative Mining Indaba in Bulawayo. The symposium was attended by 42 participants (13 females and 29 males) from Mutoko, Manicaland, Midlands and Matebeleland. The symposium was held to gather contributions from the youths on natural governance in Zimbabwe for inclusion in the main Indaba resolutions. Highlights from the meeting include the youths articulating the experiences. The meeting was attended by Hon Gumbo and Hon Muzondiwa who are both in the mines and minerals parliamentary portfolio committee. On behalf of their committee, they took the opportunity to gather the youth input towards the Mines and Minerals Bill.

## **Results**

*Youths managed to give their input to the Mines and Minerals Bill, youth participation during the Bills' public hearing had been very low hence the symposium was an opportune event for youths to contribute to the process.*

## **High Schools Debate and Public Speaking Gala**

The ZIMCODD Students' Debate & Public Speaking Gala reached its sixth year in 2016 since its inception in 2010. The aim is to encourage research on social and economic issues among secondary schools and tertiary institution. Regional debates were held in Bulawayo and Harare. The Bulawayo event was held on 23 July 2016 with 99 students (29 females and 70 males). The Harare debate gala was held at Queen Elizabeth on the 17th of September 2016. 158 students took part at the debate Gala. Issues debated include public policy, social and economic justice, tax and trade justice as well as sustainable development and livelihoods in the wider society.

## **Results**

*The quality of debates content has improved which reflect attention to facts through research by the students and their teachers.*



*Adjudicators following proceedings during the National High Schools Debates*

## National High Schools Debate and Public Speaking

The National High Schools Debate gala saw the regional winners participating in the national finals. 106 participants attended the National High Schools Debates Finals. From the 2016 debates there is evidence that the students research and knowledge base continues to grow. ZIMCODD taps into the advocacy issues raised by the students to inform its campaigns.

## Tertiary Institutions Debates

The Tertiary debates and public speaking gala entered its second year in 2016. The inaugural tertiary debates were held in 2015 with 8 tertiary institutions taking part. In 2016, 13 institutions took part with a total of 119 students. The students have managed to research more on topical issues. The students can now link all the ZIMCODD thematic areas in their debates.



*National Tertiary Debates and Public Speaking Gala winners*

## Results

*Students are articulate demanding justice in Natural Resources Governance as witnessed through their submission to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Mines and Mining Development during the youth symposium.*

## **Regional Debates and Public Speaking Gala - SADC People Summit**

The SADC People's Summit remains a vehicle through which ZIMCODD has managed to build vibrant youth movement in the region. ZIMCODD organized the 2016 Regional Tertiary Institutions debate and Public Speaking Gala during the 2016 SADC People's Summit at Bosco Skills and Training Centre in Manzini Swaziland. The SADC People's Summit was held from the 17th - 19th of August 2016 under the theme; Youth Movement Building Towards People Centred Development in SADC-Mining and Natural Resource Governance.

The regional tertiary debates have since grown to cover ten (10) countries who participated in the 2016 SADC Summit in Swaziland. There is noticeable growing interest by youths around the region as they have taken the debates in their respective countries, for example, Zambia, Mozambique, Lesotho, Tanzania and Botswana.

## **Essay Competitions On Natural Resources Governance**

To maintain youth's engagement a call for essays on Natural Resources Governance was published on the ZIMCODD website and advertised to 16 Tertiary Institutions in Zimbabwe<sup>6</sup>. The majority of the essays were directed towards the Abuse of Natural Resources Governance by the government while a relative number made submissions to the African Mining Vision and how it can be nationalised. ZIMCODD has since compiled the voices from the essays into a research document that outlines young people's priorities on Natural Resources governance. Those essays will be shared with stakeholders in order to elevate youth issues in natural resource governance.

## **Debates Manual**

During the period under review, ZIMCODD developed a debate manual which will be used to guide the debates at national and regional level. The manual gives comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of competitive debating. It provides the students with the tools he or she will need to begin the process of learning about competitive debate. The manual will be shared with students at national and regional level before they take part in the regional debates.

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<sup>6</sup> University of Zimbabwe, Midlands State University, Africa University, Mutare Teachers College, Mutare Polytechnic College, Marraymount Teachers College, Harare Polytechnic College, Belvedere Teachers College, Catholic University, Bindura University, Chinhoyi University, Bulawayo Polytechnic College, Great Zimbabwe University, Bulawayo Polytechnic College, Women's University, Lupane University

## **Results:**

*The debates have managed to create a sustainable forum for students to articulate on public policy, social and economic justice, tax and trade justice as well as sustainable development and livelihoods. The debates also managed to raise students and teachers economic literacy for them to fully participate and demand space in policy making processes. Students in the region had the opportunity to contribute to the regional communiqué which was handed over to the Heads of States for policy reforms.*

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

Three policy dialogue meetings were held under the Natural Resources Governance (NRG) theme.

### **Natural Resources Forum lobby meeting**

In Gwanda- Matebeleland South the ZIMCODD Natural Resource Forum (NRF) met with Blanket Mine where they highlighted some of their concerns on mining claims and working claims in Gwanda, which are all under the control of Blanket Mine. The mine declined to cede its unused mining claims, the Gwanda Natural Resources Forum continues to engage and had requested the Gwanda MP Honorable Gumbo to assist by calling for another meeting with Blanket Mine where the issues can be discussed and hopefully resolved.

### **Policy Dialogue Meeting – The Investor I Want – The Case of Norton**

In Norton a policy dialogue meeting was held under the Theme **Special Economic Zones and Economic Transformation: The Case of Norton “The Investor I Want”**. A total of 129 people (58 men and 71 women) attended the meeting including representatives from the Norton Town council and a private company in the town Best Fruit Processors. However one of the investors Great Dyke Investment a platinum mining company in Darwendale failed to attend the meeting. The meeting managed to bring the investors, policy makers and the community members to discuss issues they would want for the betterment of their town. The SEJAs raised issues of local employment, local enterprise development, skills development and transfer, environmental and human rights issues that investors need to respect in their projects.



## Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill Awareness Meeting

In collaboration with ZELA and Publish What You Pay Zimbabwe, ZIMCODD organized a meeting in to prepare the communities on the public hearings on the Mine and Minerals Bill that would be held. The meeting was organized by The Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Zimbabwe. A total of Forty Eight participants, (20) Women and (28) men attended the meeting.

### **Results:**

- *SEJAs were active in their participation during the public hearings on the Bill that followed. This shows that SEJAs have been capacitated in on critical legislative issues that affect natural resource governance. In Mutare ZIMCODD was represented by 6 SEJAS, (4 men and 2 women) during the public hearing.*
- *The investment company, Best Fruit Processors called on Norton Residents to form cooperatives and deliver fruits to the company as a way of empowering the local community's enterprises. The Norton town council also pledged its support to the company by offering land to the cooperatives who will be interested in partnering with Best Fruit Processors.*

## 7.3 Campaigns, Social Movement Building and Networking

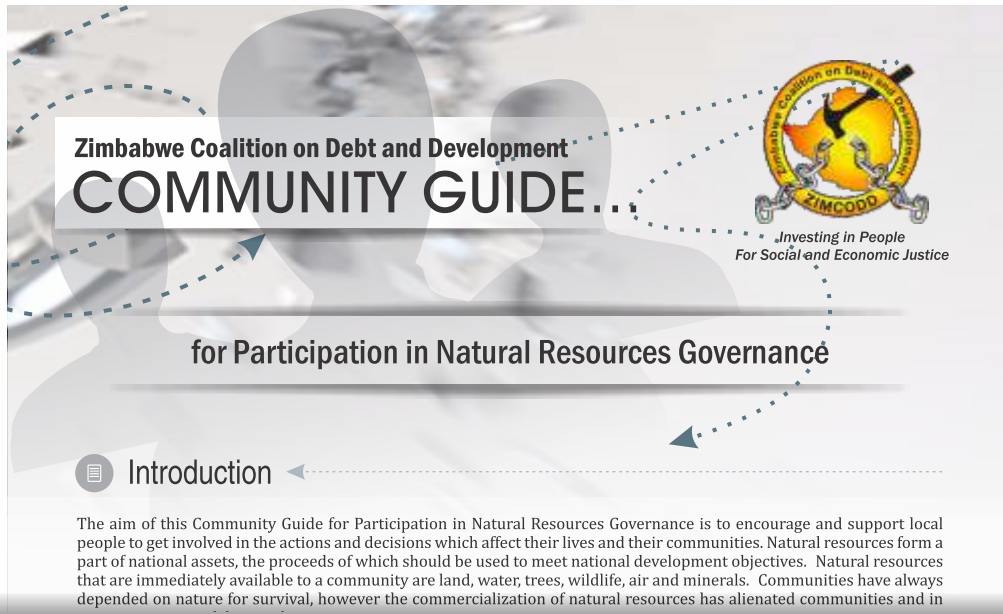
ZIMCODD participated at a business discussion forum organized by the Australian Embassy to analyse the ongoing mining sector legislations. The meeting was held at the embassy on 14 June 2016 and was attended by the business community, civil society and other embassies. a representative of the Mines and Energy Parliamentary Committee presented their thoughts on the Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill currently under consideration by the parliament. All the presenters concurred that this was an opportunity for the Zimbabweans to fill all the gaps that exist within this principal mining law crafted by the colonial regime in 1961. However, it was clear that the amendments would not be able to address all the gaps hence there was need to have an overhaul of the legislation.

## 7.4 Information Communication and Technology Program, (ICT)

### **Community Guide for Participation in Natural Resources Governance**

The aim of this Community Guide for Participation in Natural Resources Governance is to encourage and support local people to get involved in the actions and decision which affect their lives and their

communities. The community guide was translated to Shona and Isindebele for wider reach. A training meeting on how to use the guide was conducted in Mutare targeting the organisation's SEJAs.



*The Community guide for participation in natural resources governance*

## 8 MOVEMENT BUILDING

**Strategic Objective:** To broaden and strengthen the movement for social and economic justice and reinforce sector specific initiatives at local, national and regional level, by 2020.

Movement building is at the core of ZIMCODD work. Work is centred on harnessing the public voices and collective efforts at local, regional and international level to build a broad based vibrant social movement on the target various social and economic justice issues. During the period under review a number of activities were held to fulfill this aspiration. The ZIMCODD membership currently stands at 60 organisations and 2,238 individual members (1,577 Females 661 Males) as captured in the database.

### 8.1 National People's Summit

ZIMCODD held a one day National SADC People's Summit at Chitungwiza's Unit L Hall in preparation for the 2017 SADC People's Summit. Participation was drawn from ZIMCODD sectors i.e. Labour; Youth/Students; Gender; HIV/AIDS; Arts and Culture; Social Service Delivery; Debt and Trade; Governance, Human Rights and Constitutionalism; Disability; Faith Based; and Natural Resources Governance from across the country. Approximately 300 delegates were in attendance at the summit.

The National SADC Summit came up with sectoral issues, as outlined in the 2016 National SADC People's Summit Communiqué. In addition to the yearly national event, the National SADC Summit is an ongoing process which involves the undertaking of various interventions, in between the Summits, by civil and community stakeholders through different programmes and campaigns which reflect on previous issues as raised in the Summits. The resolutions made were conveyed to Swaziland during the SADC People's Summit.

### 8.2 2016 SADC People's Summit

The SADC people's Summit remains a vehicle through which ZIMCODD has managed to maintain a vibrant social and economic justice movement in the region from 17-19 August, ZIMCODD participated at the Regional Summit People's Summit in Swaziland. The coalition hosted a Tertiary Debate Session on natural resources where students from the region participated. The SADC People's Summit was held under the theme; Youth Movement Building Towards People Centred Development in SADC-

Mining and Natural Resource Governance. Through the debates, the youth are interrogating critical governance issues and sharing experiences on how they can influence policy from their respective countries in the SADC region. ZIMCODD has maintained the debates regional platform through the use of social media in order to network the youths to inspire each other in between the summits.

### **Results:**

*The following are some of the notable success stories of the students who participated at the event.*

**Botswana** – Charity Makhala has managed to scoop three big accolades as an adjudicator at regional and international level. Charity was one of the adjudicators at the Zanzibar Open Universities debate championships held annually in Tanzania. Charity credits her success to ZIMCODD after she was chosen to be an Assistant Chief Adjudicator at the World Universities Debating Championships that were held in Thessaloniki Greece October 2016.

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=Zanzibar%20Open%20Universities%20debate%20championships>



*Baraka (Blue jacket) with the teachers at the handing over of prizes*

**Tanzania** – Baraka Chedego has initiated the debates and public Speaking Gala at Primary and Secondary Level in Tanzania. The inaugural debates dubbed Skills Avenue Youth Initiative were held on the 1st of December 2016. Chedego has promised to take the initiative to rural schools so that they can

debate and engage with duty bearers on the issues affecting them as youths in Tanzania.

<http://sayitanzania.blogspot.com/2016/12/photos-of-debate-and-public-speaking-at.html?m=0>

**Tanzania** - Eben Kinabo and Immaculate Macom submitted a Project implementation plan at the African Youth Leaders Transforming Summit that was held in Tanzania on the 13 – 18th of November 2016. The project aims at dealing with eradication of youth unfair exploitation due to unemployment and unheard voices and making sure that information on extractives is well inhabited to bring awareness and prolong the fight for Natural resources governance in Tanzania.

**Zimbabwe** - the students who participated at the Summit Deone Tarumbwa and Sibonisiwe Ngubeni, with the assistance of ZIMCODD organized and facilitated a Student Economic Forum in Bulawayo. The event was held at National University of Science and Technology (NUST).

**Mozambique** - the Mozambique team with the assistance of the Christian Council of Mozambique have planned to organize the debates in Maputo, Cabo Delgado and Tete provinces in order to mobilize and strengthen youths on natural resources governance issues. The inaugural activities will be held in 2017. See attached email from Higino Country Director for Christian Council for stating that Mozambique will be holding debates at National Level.



Left: Participants following proceedings during the debates gala,  
Right: Shields that were part of the prizes during the debate gala

## 8.3 Networking

In 2016 ZIMCODD attended the following events:

EVENT	DESCRIPTION
Commemoration of the Life of a ZIMCODD SEJA – Gwayagwaya	ZIMCODD attended the memorial service to celebrate the life of a ZIMCODD SEJA and activist on Natural Resources Governance, the late Cephas Gwayagwaya. The event was held in Arda Transau on the 30th of April 2016
Zimbabwe Civil Society Organization (CSOs) Reflection Meeting	ZIMCODD with a group of CSO which included ZIMRIGHTS, ZLHR, and Crisis Coalition in Zimbabwe, MISA, Media Alliance and Women's Coalition organized this meeting to track key developments in the work of civil society as they relate to not only our current realities but also past common strategic positions in collective pursuit of furthering democratic space in Zimbabwe
Crisis Coalition Public Meeting	A meeting to review the social economic situation in the country. ZIMCODD presented its position paper entitled “Cash Crisis, Bond Notes and Zimbabwe Economy: The Real Problem”.
FES Discussion Forum on Extractivism	The debate was “To extract or not to extract for Zimbabwe?” This was in the context of the country’s failure to benefit from its natural resources. Presentations were made by technical experts in the mining sector and civil society
Media Sensitisation on the Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill	A meeting which shared an analysis of the proposed Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill.
Universal Periodic Review Screening	The Universal Periodic Review of Zimbabwe, hosted by the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, where Zimbabwe was reporting back towards implementing recommendations which were made in 2011 by the United Nations.
Reaction to Introduction of Bond Notes By Civil Society, Informal Sector, Economic and Social Rights Conference	The civil society meeting discussed the implications of the pending introduction of the bond notes to social and economic lives of the citizens. The informal sector and economic and social rights conference organized by the Bulawayo Vendors and Traders Association (BVTA) and the Women Institute for Leadership (WILD) in commemorating the 16 days of activism against gender based violence.

## **9 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**

The Information desk is a cross cutting function of ZIMCODD's thematic areas. It facilitates effective communication on ZIMCODD activities with stakeholders through information dissemination internally and externally, documentation, monitoring and media related functions. The year 2016 saw ZIMCODD redesign its website while Facebook and Twitter accounts remained active. The Facebook account Zimcodd Zimcodd currently has 982 friends an increase from 635 recorded in December 2015. Twitter followers increased from 675 as of December 2015 to 1 333 in December 2016. The organization was mentioned in 14 stories carried by various media houses. 2016 Zimbabwe International Book Fair.

ZIMCODD collaborated with AFRODAD during the 2016 Zimbabwe International Book Fair exhibition which ran under the theme “Igniting interest in reading for sustainable development” and was held from the 27th -30th at the Harare Gardens. It was a platform where the organisation showcased its publications and books, raising awareness on issues of social and economic justice. More than 130 people stopped over at the stand with the majority of the visitors being students drawn from local academic institutions. The Minister of Education, Sports and Culture Honorable Lazarus Dokora who was the guest of honor in this year's ZIBF also managed to visit our stand and called us to continue encouraging a culture of reading by showcasing our work.

### **9.1 ZIMCODD on SoundCloud**

A ZIMCODD SoundCloud account was opened for electronic distribution of audio-visual material. SoundCloud is a global online audio distribution platform that enables its users to upload, record, promote, and share audio clips. The SoundCloud link <https://soundcloud.com/zimcodd/tracks>

### **9.2 Situation Room**

A situation room which was established in 2015 as an information resource centre has been revamped. The organisation managed to purchase a cabin where visitors can read and research. A desktop

computer which has good internet connectivity has been put in place, and this enables visitors to the situation room to research for information. Situation room pictures.



## Situation Room Visitors' Records

Designation	Number of Visitors	
	Male	Female
Members of Parliament	5	3
High School Students	51	83
Tertiary Students	86	65
SEJAs	58	24
<b>Total Visitors</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>175</b>





*The Situation Room*

### **9.3 Smart Phones For SEJAs**

During the period under review, ZIMCODD purchased 11 smart phones which will be used by the SEJAs for real time information capturing and sharing. The information and updates will be posted in the ZIMCODD Situation room and shared through the organisation various channels such as Twitter, WhatsApp, Facebook, Website and SoundCloud.

### **9.4 Media Monitoring Tracker (Weekend Reader)**

The tracker compiles social and economic justice articles published by diverse media houses and is distributed every Friday to ZIMCODD members and partners through the emailing list. This is a way to ensure that the members are aware of social and economic development issues in the country as well as ZIMCODD's analyses of key developments. In 2017 it is envisaged that the weekend reader will be distributed via the WhatsApp platform to cater for ease of access.

### **9.5 Publications**

In additions to publications already been reported under each thematic area ZIMCODD produced and shared the following publications;

PUBLICATION	DESCRIPTION
<b>BreakFree Newsletter</b>	A quarterly newsletter which carries stories on social and economic justice. The publication has been overwhelmingly received and SEJAs have been asking for more copies.
<b>ZIMCODD 2015 Annual Report</b>	The 2015 annual report was compiled, an abridged version was printed for institutional memory and shared on the organisation's website.
<b>Policy Brief On The Auditor General's Reports</b>	A brief highlight issues of concern around public finance mismanagement as reported in the Auditor General's reports.
<b>2016 SADC People's Summit Report</b>	A detailed report in ZIMCODD's activities during the SADC people's summit.
<b>SEJA Reader</b>	A compilation of articles distributed to SEJAs to keep them aware and updated on topical issues.
<b>ZIMCODD Debates Manual</b>	A guide on how to conduct debates
<b>ZIMCODD Brochure</b>	New brochure developed in line with the new programming thematic areas.

# 10

## ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Strategic Objective:** Efficient and effective ZIMCODD structures able to deliver on mandate by 2020

This thematic area focuses on the internal governance of ZIMCODD at secretariat and political leadership levels for efficient service delivery to stakeholders. Resource mobilisation is also critical for the implementation of planned programmes hence current and potential partners will be targeted with market attractive proposals. Maintaining good relations, accountability and professional conduct with stakeholders also forms a vital component of the organisational development thematic area.

### 10.1 ZIMCODD Planning Meeting

ZIMCODD secretariat held the annual planning meeting from 20 to 21 January 2016 at New Ambassador Hotel in Harare. The planning meeting was critical since the organisation had just adopted a new strategic plan running from 2016 to 2020. The organisation developed the annual operational plan and budget for the year 2016 which will guide programmes.

### 10.2 Review/ Evaluation of ZIMCODD Programming - 2000 - 2015

ZIMCODD commissioned an external evaluation to measure the organization's effectiveness, impact and sustainability from 2000 - 2015. Symacon Consultants was selected to carry out the evaluation process. The evaluation noted that ZIMCODD has been successful in facilitating citizens' participation and involvement in public policy in Zimbabwe and beyond. ZIMCODD has systematically expanded scope from the debt issue to encompass broader social and economic justice issues including the Access to Water Campaign, HIV and Access to Treatment, illicit financial flows among others.

The evaluation also highlighted challenges faced by ZIMCODD during the 15 year journey and a detailed response to issues that were highlighted in the evaluation is being shared with key stakeholders. The new leadership ushered in through the Annual General Meeting (AGM) has already started to consider the evaluation as a guiding tool for policy and programming purposes.

### 10.3 Governance Meetings

During 2016 regional and national board meetings were held as scheduled. Regional committees in Harare, Mutare and Bulawayo met three times each, whilst the national board met four times. The regional and national board meetings assist the organisation with evaluating progress on fulfilling its mandate.



*Elected Regional Committee members  
(Harare Regional Committee)*

### 10.4 Elective Annual General Meetings

ZIMCODD held its elective AGM at regional and national level, these are held every two year in line with the organisation's constitution. These AGMs ushered in new regional committees in Harare, Mutare and Bulawayo and a new national board. A new National Board was elected with Mr Liberty Bhebhe as the Chairperson whilst Dr Rita Beauty Nyampinga was elected Vice Chairperson. More than 60 ZIMCODD cluster member organisations representatives cast their votes during the elections which were monitored by the Election Resource Centre (ERC).



*Elected Regional Committee members  
(Bulawayo Regional Committee)*

### 10.5 Lessons Learnt and Achievements

- ➔ Advocacy in the natural resources management discourse is bearing results through policy reviews and companies such as ZIMASCO ceding shares to communities.
- ➔ Crop diversification in Gokwe improving livelihoods, the communities has embraced the sesame crop which is producing good yields.



*Elected Regional Committee members  
(Mutare Regional Committee)*

- Collaboration with the Ministry of SMEs CD which specializes in business and cooperative development, business resource mobilisation, cooperative registration and market linkages helped to achieve project results.
- Collaborations with other civil society organisation facilitated in the mobilisation of women vendors as well as provision of affordable community hall hiring.
- To avoid entanglement with local political issues, ZIMCODD remained apolitical and engages across the political divide to ensure successful project implementation.
- ZIMCODD managed to acquire the necessary documents as required by relevant stakeholders to ensure efficient and effective project implementation for example ZIMCODD signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mashonaland East Province this paved way for smooth operations in the province, although the organisation does not have problems in other provinces.
- Targeted stakeholder communication and engagement is effective in advocacy and lobby as evidence by acknowledgements from the IMF and Ministry of Finance.

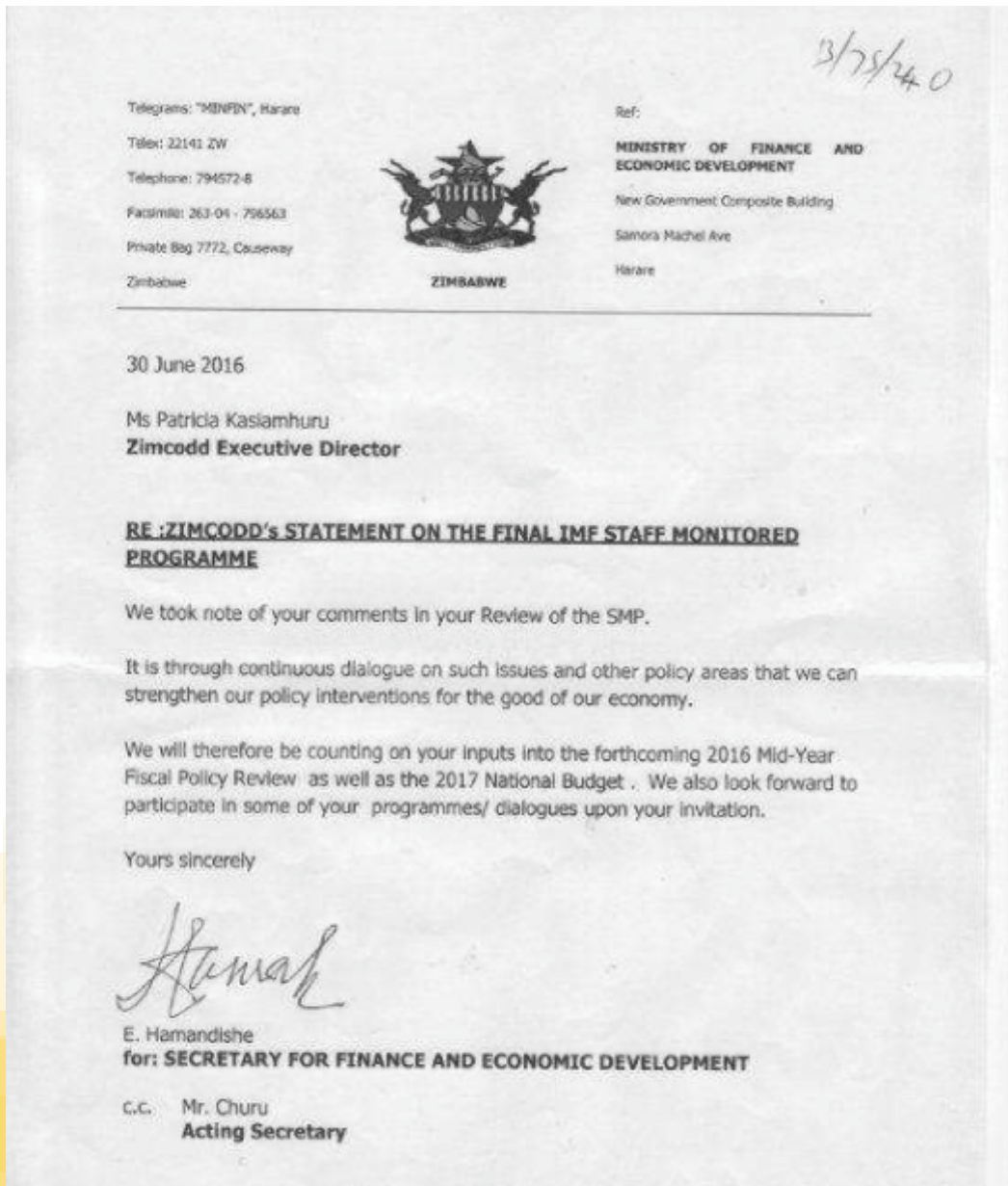
## 10.6 Finance and Administration Department

Behind the scenes: The Finance and Administration Department worked tirelessly providing support to the efficient execution of ZIMCODD Programs. The operating environment was a bit stable at the beginning of the year but however cash shortages have become a common sight at most banks up the end of year despite the introduction of bonds notes which are rated one as to one with the United States dollar. The cash shortages affected cash payments to members who were attending meetings. Despite these challenges ZIMCODD received very good support from all its funding partners for the period under review and among them are Africa Groups of Sweden, Irish Aid, OSISA, Trust Africa, CAFOD, Norwegian Embassy, HIVOS, NORAD among others. There were budget cuts and exchange rate losses in some cases but ZIMCODD managed to pull through up to the end of the year with total receipts expected up to end of year of around \$ 450 000 which went to support the programs and administration aspects of ZIMCODD. A detailed Financial Report is being worked on and will be submitted before the stipulated date of 31 March 2016.

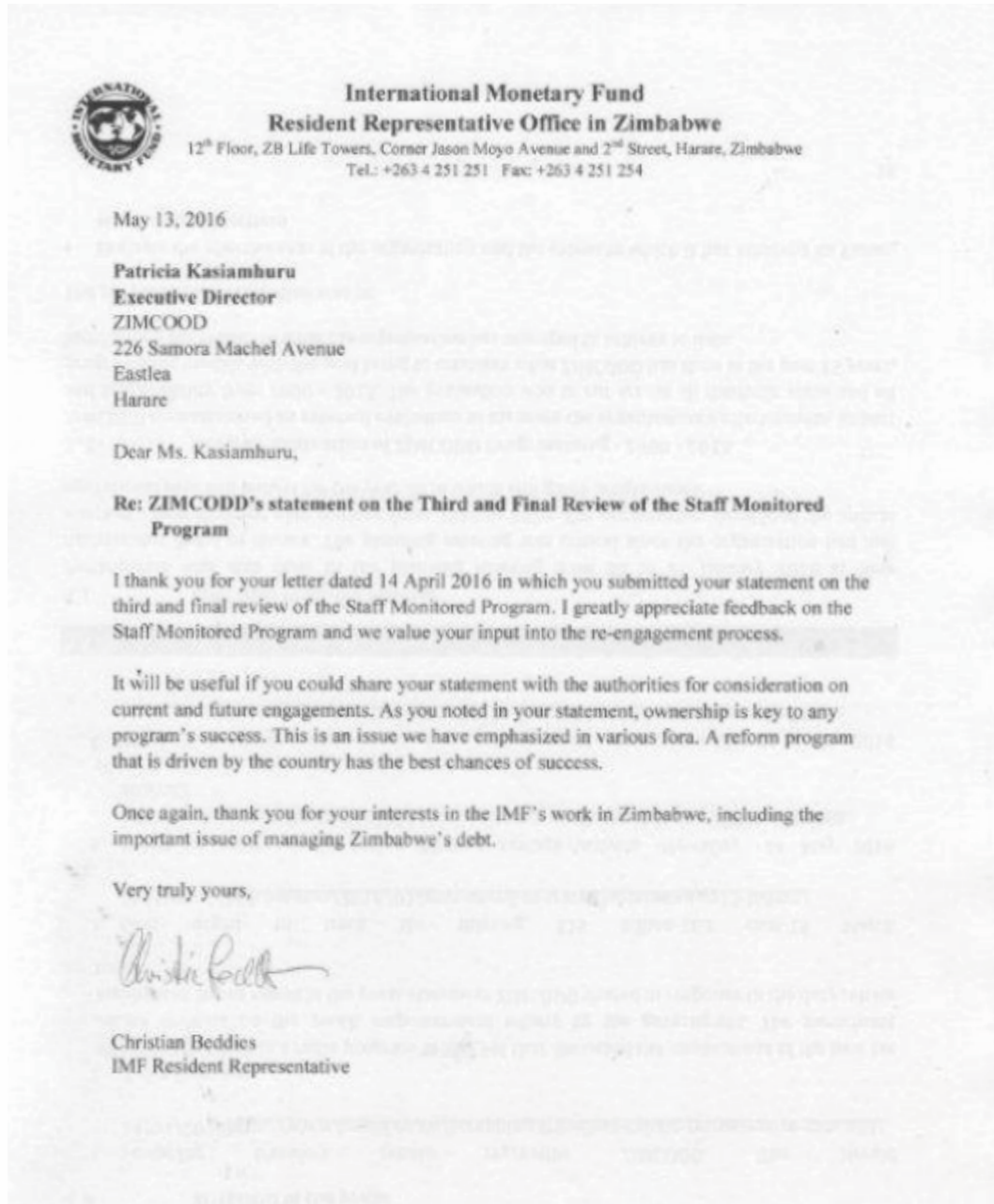
## ANNEX 1 :

### MINISTRY OF FINANCE

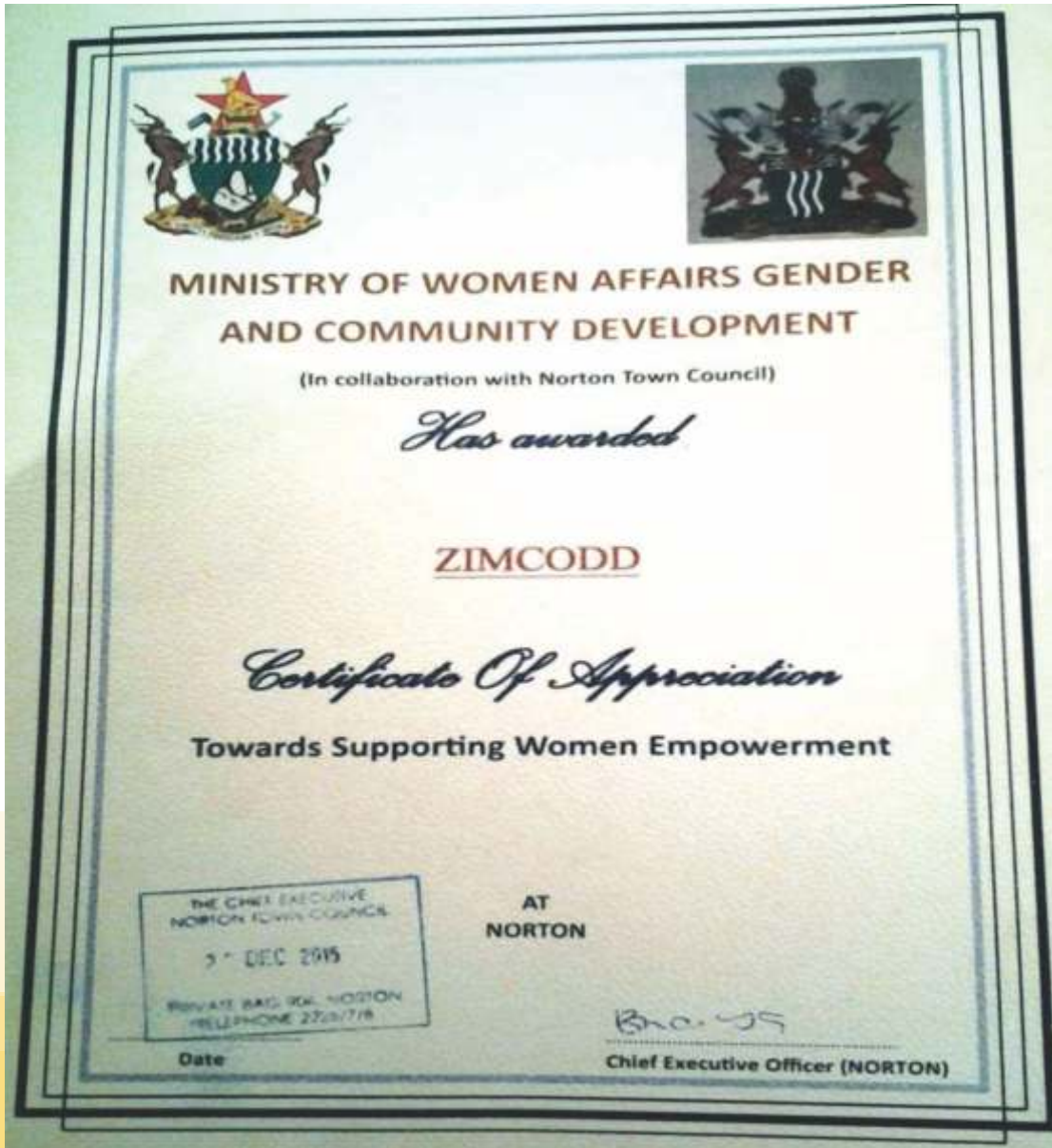
### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTER TO ZIMCODD



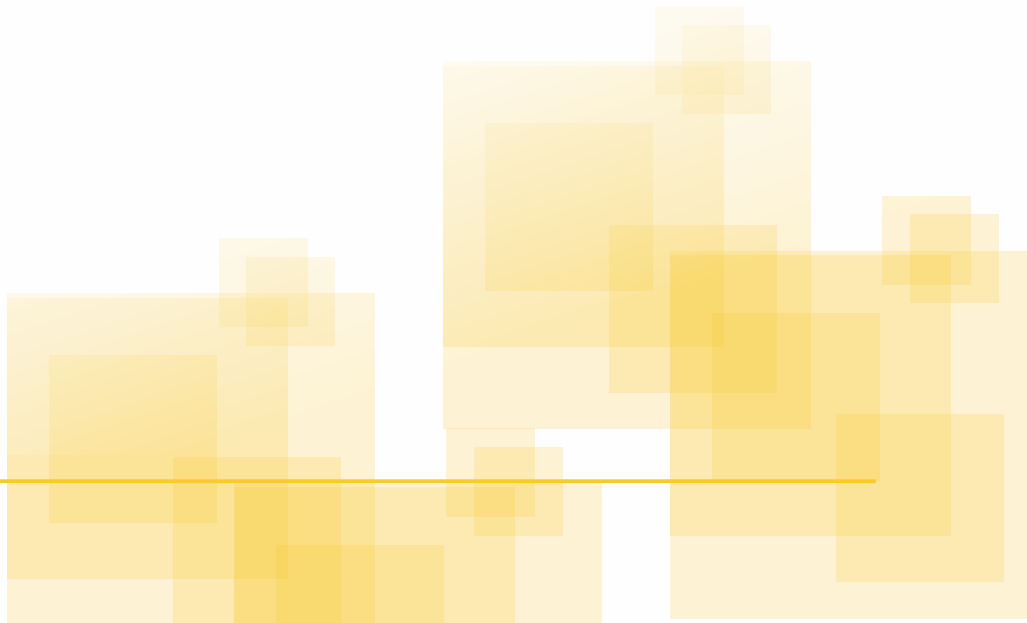
## ANNEX 2 : IMF RESPONSE TO ZIMCODD



**ANNEX 3 : ZIMCODD'S CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AWARDED BY THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH NORTON TOWN COUNCIL**









*Investing in People  
For Social and Economic Justice*

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