

Investing in People for Social and Economic Justice

## ZIMBABWE COALITION ON DEBT AND DEVELOPMENT



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



## 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 the 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 marginalised 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.

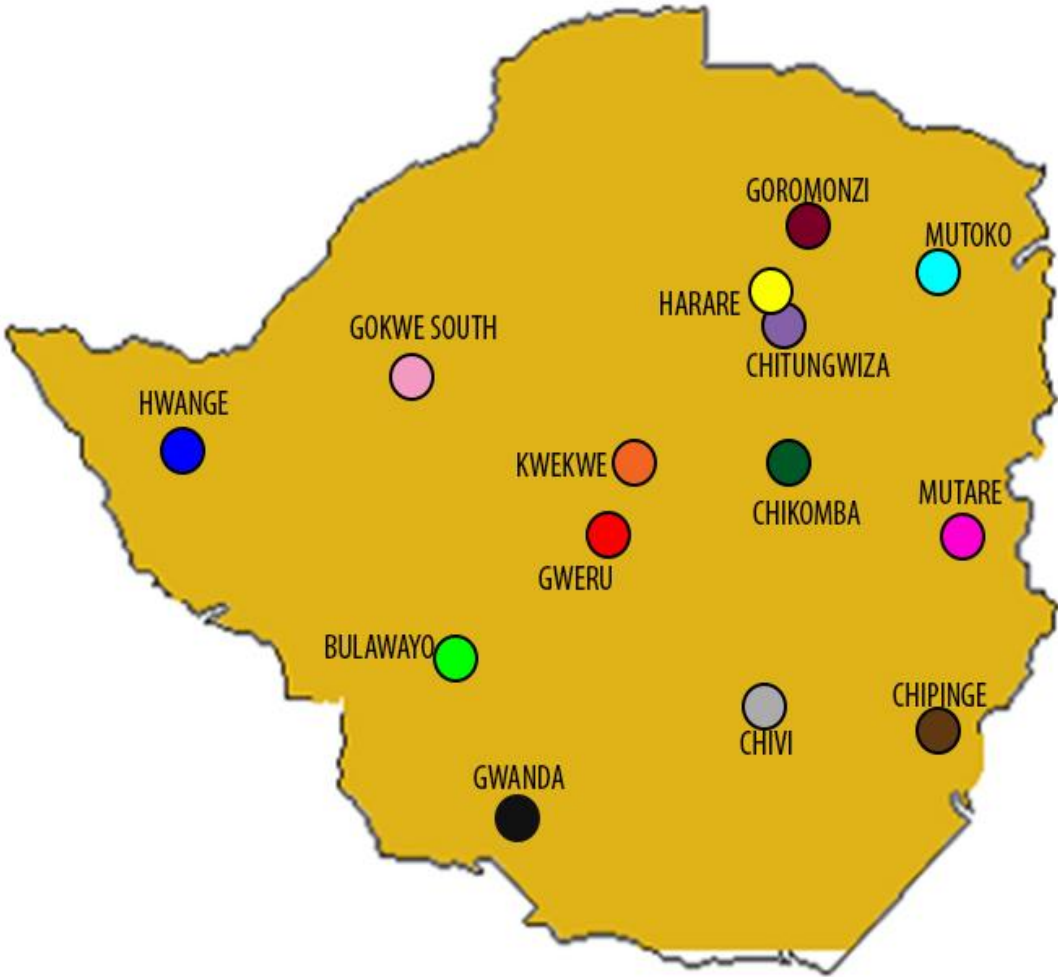
### **Vision**

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

### **Mission**

To take action against the debt burden and social and economic injustices through movement building and alternative policy formulation.

**ZIMCODD Geographical Reach in 2019**



## From the Executive Director's Desk

It is with a sense of accomplishment that I present the Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2019. It is critical for me to mention that 2019 was indeed a busy year for the coalition. I would like to extend my gratitude to the ZIMCODD board membership, staff, our funding partners, our partners in civil society, various government ministries and departments without whose efforts our 2019 efforts would have been futile.

The distressing moments that befell the Coalition did not distract us from pursuing our mandate of ensuring a just and equal society. The unfortunate events that unfolded during and after the 2019 Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) People's Summit which threatened the security of ZIMCODD staff and its members following unsubstantiated media claims by the [Herald](#) and the subsequent articles did not deter us from pursuing social and economic justice.

As the country's economy continued to deteriorate, we remained steadfast with our commitment to advocate for citizens' social and economic rights. The social and economic rights of citizens continued to be abrogated left right and centre in the face of austerity measures introduced in the 2019 National Budget. Historic hyperinflation, price hikes, massive power cuts, fuel shortages rocked the country and it was an ordinary citizen who bore the brunt. The country's political, social and economic spectrum thus continued to be in the spotlight on a global scale with historic developments either positive or negative shaping social and economic justice discourse.

We have taken every opportunity to ensure the empowerment of citizens for them to demand their social and economic rights as provided for in the national Constitution. Public service delivery was not spared by the socioeconomic crises as public services declined to unimaginable levels. Of note were the developments in the country's public health sector where there was a shutdown of an already dilapidated health system following the unresolved impasse between the government and public medical practitioners.

In the face of the biting social and economic environment, ZIMCODD's achievements in 2019 are remarkable. We have invested significantly in elevating the discourse surrounding transparency and accountability in the utilization and expenditure of public resources. The manner in which public resources are managed determines the extent to which citizens' social and economic rights are realized. Henry Ford once said "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young." ZIMCODD drew inspiration from this as it managed to review its Strategic Plan to ensure that it responds to emerging trends and forecasts into the future.

As ZIMCODD celebrates 20 years of existence, we strongly believe that together we can bring about a socially and economically just Zimbabwe where the rights of citizens are venerated. As we brace for the 2020 journey, we continue valuing strategic partnerships because in everything we do, we recognize the importance of collective efforts for a common cause.

Thank You

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# 1. Operating Environment

As the government attempted to address the macroeconomic imbalances in Zimbabwe, several monetary and fiscal policy instruments were introduced during the 2019 fiscal year. The 2019 National Budget became the first policy to operationalise the Transitional Stabilisation Programme (TSP) (October 2018-December 2020). The TSP which is a precursor to the two five-year National Development Strategies (the first plan covering 2021-2025 and the second plan covering 2026-2030), provides quick wins to stimulate economic growth and stabilize the macroeconomic and financial sectors but this is dependent on political will. The policy is anchored on Vision 2030 envisioning Zimbabwe becoming an upper-middle country by 2030 with a per capita income of US\$2 018 by 2020 and rising to US\$5 821 by 2030.

The fiscal and monetary policy interventions under the TSP were supposedly introduced to address foreign currency shortages, unsustainable fiscal and current account deficits, overdependence on imports, the huge debt burden, wide infrastructure gap, and poor service delivery. The monetary policy introduced in February 2019 aimed at addressing the mythical 1:1 exchange rate between the Bond Note and the US dollar. This is despite the fact that the currencies were already trading in the informal market at a floating exchange rate. The demand for foreign currency increased sharply owing to the fact that Zimbabwe remained a net importer of fuel, cooking oil, electricity, medicines and water chemicals among other basic necessities. The increasing demand for foreign currency affected prices of basic commodities which continued to soar. Statutory Instrument (SI) 142 of 2019 was later introduced to abandon the use of the multi-currency regime which had been in existence since 2009 throwing the majority of citizens into dilemma due to erosion of incomes, savings and pensions. The decision was widely condemned as it lacked proper public consultations and the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) threatened to protest as this was in violation of the Tripartite Negotiating Forum (TNF) Act recently enacted. The government later issued licenses for selected institutions to charge their goods and services in United States dollars as most businesses resisted the unilateral policy decision. Whilst the Reserve Bank Governor is guarding against the re-dollarization of the economy, it is no doubt that the United States dollar (USD) remained the base currency for trading purposes in Zimbabwe. The consolidation of all payment systems to the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) failed to deal with the three-tier pricing system.

The 2020 National Budget was presented by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. The budget is titled “Gearing for Higher Productivity, Growth and Job Creation.” The Minister indicated that austerity measures “were over” arguing that the focus is now on productivity and job creation. In terms of figures, the national budget has ZWL\$73 billion for revenue as well as ZWL\$68 billion as the estimated figure of government expenditure. The 2020 budget also feeds into Vision 2030. Citizens however, continue to call upon the government to honour its obligations and properly finance critical human development sectors like healthcare, education, infrastructural development and safety nets to cushion the poor against the prevailing economic difficulties. It is also worrying that the national budget did not promise to peg medical doctors’ salaries at the existing interbank market rate so as to ensure that citizens can access quality healthcare. The situation in the country’s public healthcare is dire with both the maternal and infant mortality rates getting out of control and Zimbabweans dying from curable diseases. This has witnessed citizens being turned away from public hospitals due to the unavailability of medical staff. This has clearly become a class issue where the elites are flying out of Zimbabwe to get medical attention whilst the poor are left to die in incapacitated public health institutions.

Promises of zero tolerance to corruption and democratic governance by the new dispensation are yet to see the light of day. As corruption and bad governance continue to thrive, The

Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) which was recently granted arresting powers is yet to convince the public on its efficiency in delivering a just and corruption free Zimbabwe as citizens are lamenting the catch and release syndrome adopted by ZACC.

The country continues to witness the shrinking of democratic and civic space. The passing of the Maintenance of Public Order (MOPO) Act in place of the Public Order and Security Act (POSA) continues to stifle citizens' rights to freedom of expression and association through demonstrations or petitioning the government as provided for in the Bill of Rights. This is despite the government's commitment to implementing political reforms to ensure the restoration of rule of law and democracy. The piecemeal reforms pledged by the government seem to have been replaced by equally repressive laws such as the Access to Information Bill and Data Protection Bill. For the best results and to minimize risk on the projects, ZIMCODD will continue to engage key stakeholders such as local government, line ministries and parliament where feasible instead of confronting them. This will be complimented by the coalition sticking to its mission and objectives so as to avoid friction.

On the political front, discussions surrounding the national dialogue initiated by President, E. D. Mnangagwa, involving opposition political parties in the aftermath of the contested 2018 elections remained topical. However; a decision by the Movement for Democratic Change Alliance (MDC Alliance) (the biggest opposition party in Zimbabwe) not to participate in the dialogue process and the absence of organised civil society and social movements cast shadows on the prospects of a genuine and inclusive political process to solve the crises bedevilling the country. As the social contract continues to disintegrate, Zimbabwe needs a genuine and an all-encompassing process of a national dialogue.

ZIMCODD remains convinced that the current socio-economic crisis in Zimbabwe requires collective action from state and non-state actors. The STAP project came at an opportune time when the socio-economic crisis is deep rooted in poor public finance management with calls for both policy and institutional reforms. The project is therefore timely and is poised to register significant impact during its life of the award.

Internally, ZIMCODD reviewed its current strategy and developed a Strategic Plan covering the period 2020 to 2023. The strategic plan sought to strategically position ZIMCODD in the current social, economic, political and technological landscape. The strategy will be the roadmap to guide projects implementation going forward while ensuring ZIMCODD remains relevant in serving its members and stakeholders in delivering its mandate. During the second quarter of the year 2019, ZIMCODD welcomed new staff in the Northern region, Research and Evidence Officer, Tinashe Madondo and Monitoring and Evaluation Assistant, Muchanyara Midzi. In the third quarter, ZIMCODD was also joined by a Programmes Graduate Intern, Lynette Hlatywayo and Information and Communications student attaché, Pious Moyo.

## **2. Major Outcome highlights for the Year**

In-spite of the harsh and turbulent environment socially, economically and politically, ZIMCODD managed to record the following outcomes:

### **Social and Economic Rights (SER)**

- ZIMCODD conducted the inaugural Social and Economic Justice Activists Academy (SEJAA) in Kariba which saw the training of 33 young men and women from across Zimbabwe on social and economic rights. The trained youth organized themselves and developed a joint manifesto as a creed of commitment to fight the social and economic

injustices in Zimbabwe. The manifesto envisions a culture of human rights based active citizenship in the country through research, awareness raising, lobbying, advocacy and activism for social and economic justice.

- ZIMCODD continued to be moderator of the Act Ubambano Community Voice Application. This is a platform where stories of struggle from communities across the Southern African Development Community are posted to allow the cross pollination of ideas among activists.

## Natural Resources Governance

- District Alternative Mining Indabas (DAMIs) empowered communities to be able to engage solution holders on inclusive community development; Villagers in Sese (Chivi) and Domboshava managed to halt irresponsible mining activities by Murowa Diamonds and the Chinese respectively.
- ZIMCODD's work around public resources accountability in Mutoko was applauded by stakeholders such as Shine Faith Based Organisation who acknowledged that the initiative brought positive development in the area.

## Public Finance Management (PFM)

- Through the production of comprehensive research papers, ZIMCODD has become a reference point for other civil society organisations (CSO) and individual activists and this witnessed the coalition partnering with other like-minded organisations. Oxfam in Zimbabwe, for instance, committed additional resources towards disseminating the findings of the Auditor General's Report and invited ZIMCODD and Southern African Parliamentary Support Trust (SAPST) to collaborate on a follow up workshop on Strengthening Public Accountability in Zimbabwe. The workshop was aimed at strengthening evidence-based platforms and strategic advocacy initiatives to advance democratic accountability in Zimbabwe. This has brought public finance management issues into the public domain with different stakeholders calling for transparency and accountability in the sector.
- Demystification of the 2018 Office of the Auditor General's (OAG's) report increased citizen involvement and participation in PFM oversight. The Policy Brief on **Percentage Share of Social Spending in Government Expenditure: Reflections from the 2019 Fiscal Framework** conscientized citizens on the role of the state in public service delivery both at national and local level as well as the need for citizen participation in ensuring effective public service delivery. This informed citizens' key asks when they engaged duty bearers during Public Finance Management Reform Indabas and the Constituency Indabas. ZIMCODD's advocacy work around the OAG report analysis further strengthened the coalition's partnership with parliamentarians through the launch of the analysis at Crown Plaza, Harare where parliamentarians also made substantial inputs in shaping future analysis. The launch opened and further strengthened the coalition's working relationship with the Parliament as one series of the PFM indaba was anchored on the ZIMCODD analysis of the 2018 OAG's findings.
- Furthermore, ZIMCODD was invited by non-traditional partners to either contribute to ongoing research processes (Oxfam in Zimbabwe), validate research findings (Hivos), review programming on public finance management (the EU<sup>1</sup> and GIZ<sup>2</sup>) and capacity building of their staff and members (WLSA<sup>3</sup>, WIPUS<sup>4</sup>, and ZCTU<sup>5</sup>). ZIMCODD was

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<sup>1</sup> European Union

<sup>2</sup> German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ)

<sup>3</sup> Women and Law in Southern Africa (WILSA)



invited to participate and give input in the redrafting of the joint Oxfam and UNDP research: ***Minding the Inequality Gaps: towards an inclusive society in Zimbabwe which extensively quoted ZIMCODD's Policy Brief on Social Spending.***

- ZIMCODD was also invited to participate in radio programmes on Zi-FM Stereo and Capitalk 104 FM to amplify debates on PFM, public accountability, and illicit financial flows by various organisations including Transparency International Zimbabwe (TiZ), Oxfam and Kuumba Arts. These invites followed ZIMCODD's TV programmes that were aimed at raising citizen participation in public finance management.
- Capacity Building Workshops for Resident Associations (RAs) and Social Economic Justice Ambassadors (SEJAs) brought trainings that enabled RAs to create platforms to challenge poor governance by local authorities. Greater Whange Residents Trust (GWRT) for instance, successfully lobbied for the participation of residents in the Hwange Full Council Board held on 17 September 2019 attended by over 200 residents. Furthermore, GWRT advocated for asset declaration by Hwange Local Board Councillors and Management which the local authority agreed on.
- Following trainings on social accountability in tertiary institutions, students effectively followed through their action plans and had peaceful demonstrations demanding their right to education. The election of some ZIMCODD trained students in student movements strengthened the movement's ability to demand social accountability from the institutions' management and government. At the National University of Science and Technology (NUST), one of the students who participated in the social accountability training for tertiary students won the elections in the student representative council whilst those from the University of Zimbabwe are also contesting for positions to lead the student representative council.
- Economic Consciousness for Development (EC4D) conscientized citizens on their social and economic rights. The platform was also momentous as it created space for marginalised groups including women, youth and people living with disabilities to share their aspirations and lobby for their inclusion in the 2020 National Budget.

## **Trade Justice and Rural Livelihoods**

- Rural women smallholder farmers have become conversant with the current trends and development in the agricultural sector value chains including land tenure. This was achieved through the development and administration of the Agricultural Score Card facilitated by ZIMCODD which reached out to over 700 women.
- Rural women smallholder farmers are now able to voice their concerns as the country is pursuing the 2030 Upper Middle-Income Economy Agenda which is promoting the privatisation of the agricultural sector at their expense.
- Using the Agricultural Score Card, women smallholder farmers are now able to monitor Government Supported Agricultural Programmes in their respective areas.

## **Information, Communication, and Technology**

ZIMCODD developed a Communications Strategy in a bid to realign its communications with the Coalition's new strategic direction. The strategy was also developed to enhance information sharing with members and other stakeholders.

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<sup>4</sup> Women in Politics Support Unit (WIPSU)

<sup>5</sup> Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU)

### 3. Programmes Implementation Summary

This report covers the period from January to December 2019. It provides programmes implementation and outcome highlights per thematic area while infusing the stories of change from different programming areas.

#### 3.1. Social and Economic Rights

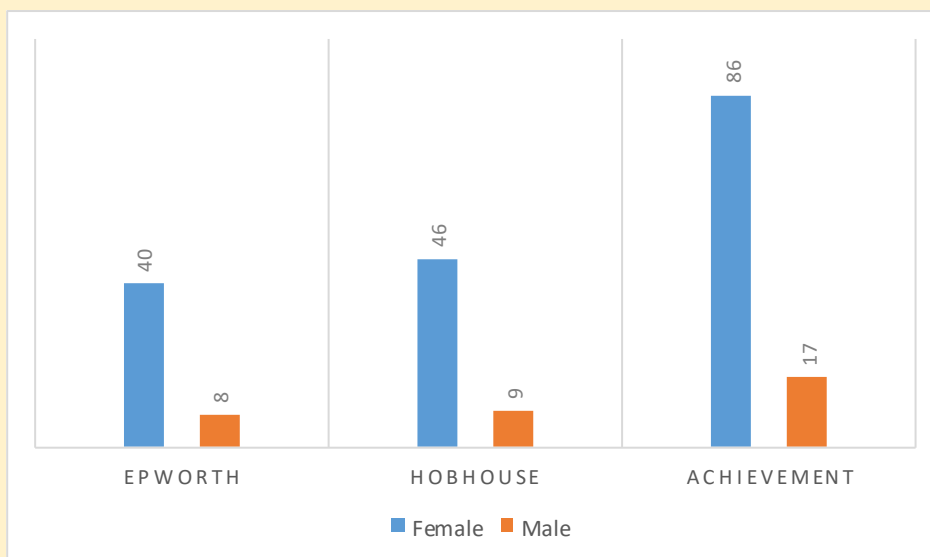
**Strategic Objective: To promote the realisation of social and economic rights as enshrined in the constitution, for the progressive fulfilment of the rights and ensure that relevant Acts of parliament are duly aligned to the Constitution by 2020.**

ZIMCODD conducted Awareness Raising Forums on the 2030 Upper Middle-Income Economy Agenda (2030 U-MIE Agenda) in Mutare and Harare. The meetings were attended by a total of 136 participants (70 females and 66 males). The platforms increased citizen awareness on the 2030 U-MIE Agenda, as well as on the importance of knowledge sharing among citizens, lobbying and citizen advocacy in policy formulation and implementation. The People's 2030 Economic Reforms Communique was produced from the meetings detailing the grassroots solutions to grassroots social and economic problems as the country is implementing the 2030 U-MIE Agenda.

<http://www.radiovop.com/eds-vision-2030-alienating-citizens/>

<https://263chat.com/ed-administration-confused-directionless-zimcodd/>

ZIMCODD in partnership with Oxfam in Zimbabwe and Action Aid International participated in the **Global Week of Action against Inequality** which ran from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2019. The campaign was done through community awareness raising meetings and online activism. Two community meetings were conducted in Harare (Epworth) and Mutare (Hobhouse) reaching 103 participants (86 females and 17 male).



In preparation for the 2020 Fight Inequality Campaign, ZIMCODD conducted a Fight Inequality Campaign Strategy Design Workshop on 12 December 2019 in collaboration with Oxfam. The workshop was meant to come up with the 2020 campaign strategy.

The campaign was further propagated through various digital platforms including radio, television, twitter, blog site, and Facebook. A press conference highlighting sectoral demands to reduce inequality induced poverty rounded the campaign in partnership with Oxfam Zimbabwe and Action Aid International. The links below provide the evidence:

<https://www.reportfocusnews.com/2019/01/26/inequality-festers-as-ordinary-zimbabweans-hard-hit/>

<https://263chat.com/eds-middle-income-economy-status-vision-within-reach/>

<https://www.reportfocusnews.com/2019/01/26/inequality-festers-as-ordinary-zimbabweans-hard-hit/>  
<http://bhizimusi.com/2019/03/01/growing-public-mistrust-hinders-future-development-prospects-zimcodd/>

On the Act Ubumbano project, 34 community stories on social, economic, environmental and political justice issues affecting different communities have been shared and posted on the Community Voice App following the training of 30 activists from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa in Johannesburg, South Africa held from the 26<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2019. As the host and moderator of the Act Ubumbano Community Voice App, ZIMCODD co-facilitated the training which was aimed at enhancing the capacity of activists in developing and sharing community stories through mobile phone technology. ZIMCODD also took part in the Solidarity Hub hosted by ACT Ubumbano in Johannesburg during the period 21-23 May 2019. The hub ran which ran under the theme, “*Environmental Justice: A question of survival.*” enabled a review and reflection of activism strategies in the environmental justice discourse. Below are links to the stories:

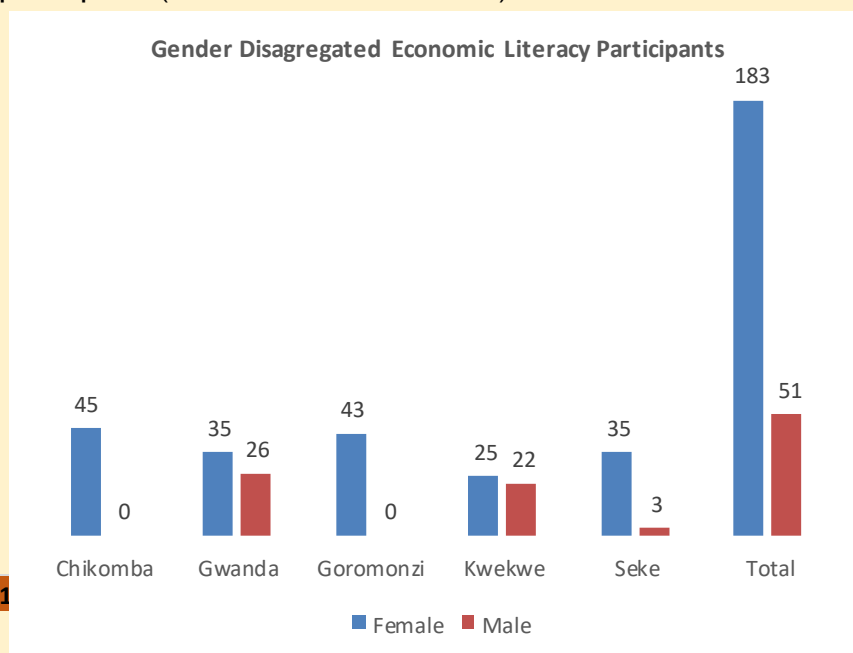
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/04/art-exhibition-for-visual-arts-and-crafters/>  
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/03/terrible-blast-in-vosman/>  
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/03/women-in-mining-speak/>  
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/03/natural-resource-curse-the-case-of-kusena-community-marange/>  
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/03/the-voice-of-the-voiceless/>  
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/03/chws-shutdown-national-health-department/>  
<https://ubumbanovoice.com/2019/03/the-working-poor-youth-and-women-in-mutare-zimbabwe/>

## 3.2 Public Finance Management

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

### 3.2.1 Strengthening Civic Participation in Economic Development

Five Economic Literacy Seminars were conducted in Gwanda, Chikomba, Kwekwe, Goromonzi, and Seke under the project Strengthening Civic Participation in Economic Development through enhanced Economic Literacy. Through these seminars, ZIMCODD reached out to 234 participants (183 females and 51 males).



The participant’s awareness and knowledge on economic governance issues was improved. Trainings on constitutional awareness and constitutionalism, social and economic rights awareness and tax, taxation and tax justice were conducted. Pre and post-test training tools were administered to the participants to measure the changes in their knowledge

scores. The results of the post training test indicated an increase of 22% in participant knowledge scores from the pre-test. The trainings therefore resulted in increased levels of economic literacy among women and youth. Outputs from the trainings included among them action plans which women and youth committed to demand from solution holders.

The seminars ensured that women who are usually side-lined when it comes to economic governance issues, had an opportunity to understand what economic governance processes entail for them to strategically position themselves to influence decisions and policy making at local and national levels. These include participating in budget processes to ensure that their concerns and priorities are incorporated and that proceeds from taxation are used for national development.

Furthermore, an economic literacy seminar for journalists was also conducted. A total of 27<sup>6</sup> participants (13 males and 14 females) were trained with an appreciation of the media as an important facet of society in the dissemination of critical information. The training increased the quality and frequency of public finance management (PFM) issues covered by both print and electronic media. To add on to these events, two Economic Symposiums for women and youth were held in Bulawayo and Harare. The events attracted 54 participants (30 females and 24 males). 56% of the participants were youth. After the symposium, Goromonzi trained participants escalated the training through conducting 10 awareness meetings targeting women in the district. They further organised a meeting with 6 Members of Parliament (MPs) from Mashonaland East though only 2 female MPs managed to attend. Critical issues concerning land tenure (women land ownership), value addition of dryland and horticulture crops and quarry mining at Garimo mountain in Domboshava were discussed.

To improve citizen economic literacy for the online community, vlogs (short video clips) were shared online. More than 10 vlogs were developed and posted on social media particularly on twitter to reach a wider audience. The vlogs covered issues mostly to do with public resource management in relation to the realisation of citizens' social and economic rights, with speakers encouraging citizens to demand public accountability from duty bearers who are the custodians of the public funds. The vlogs attracted 3, 914 views and enhanced the viewers' economic literacy, especially on public finance management issues. Refer to *Annexure I* for more details on the vlogs.

### 3.2.2 Strengthening Transparency & Accountability in PFM

Activities carried out under this thematic area include:

| Activity                          | Target | Total Reach | Men | women | Youth | Notes  |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------------|-----|-------|-------|--|
| <b>Sustainable debt campaign</b>  | 30     | 30          | 28  | 2     | -     | 1 media training on the debt discourse targeting public and private journalists was held |
| <b>High Level Debt Conference</b> | -      | 60          | 39  | 21    | -     | 1 High level debt management conference <sup>7</sup> was conducted in Harare.            |
| <b>PFM Reform Indabas</b>         | 1050   | 1086        | 692 | 394   | 455   | 21 quarterly PFM Reform indabas were conducted in Mutare, Harare,                        |

<sup>6</sup> drawn from the Herald, Star FM, Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, Newsday, Dailynews, Financial Gazette, ZiFm, NewZimbabwe.Com, Manica Post, The Sun (Gweru), SkyzFm Metro and the Patriot.

<sup>7</sup>Delegates were drawn from central government, Parliament of Zimbabwe, development agencies, private sector, renowned economists, the academia, civil society organisations as well as experts working on debt and debt related issues from the SADC region.

|  |      |      |      |      |     |   |
|--|------|------|------|------|-----|---|
|  |      |      |      |      |     | Gweru, Hwange, and Bulawayo.  |
| <b>Constituency Indabas</b>  | 2000 | 2222 | 1057 | 1165 | 852 | 20 constituency Indabas were conducted in 2019 in Mutare, Harare, Norton, Kwekwe, Gweru, Bulawayo, and Hwange.                    |
| <b>Social accountability training for tertiary students</b>                        | 300  | 335  | 162  | 173  | 335 | 6 workshops were conducted in Mutare, Harare, Gweru and Bulawayo  |
| <b>Rights consciousness for social accountability training for social networks</b> | 600  | 559  | 32   | 527  | 240 | 6 workshops were held throughout the year. The training was conducted in Mutare, Domboshava, Norton, Gwanda, Bulawayo and Hwange. |
| <b>Capacity building for RAs and SEJAs</b>   | 300  | 215  | 115  | 100  | 66  | 4 capacity building workshops for RAs and SEJAs on STAP. The training was conducted in Harare, Mutare, Gweru and Bulawayo.        |
| <b>Annual STAP Convention for RAs and SEJAs</b>                                    | 100  | 88   | 51   | 37   | 29  | 1 Annual STAP Convention was held in Harare.  |
| <b>Social and economic justice activism academy</b>                                | 150  | 137  | 78   | 59   | 137 | 5 SEJA Academies were conducted in Kariba, Mutare, Harare, Gweru, and Bulawayo.   |
| <b>Economic Consciousness for Development (EC4D)</b>                               | -    | 801  | 344  | 457  | 542 | 1 EC4D Campaign was conducted in Harare.  |

ZIMCODD conducted an analysis of the 2018 Auditor General's (OAGs) report from a socioeconomic perspective. The analysis increased citizen demand for accountability from local authorities who have the tendency of bleeding the tax payer's money through unauthorized expenditure. ZIMCODD unpacked the OAGs report for it to be palatable to general citizens for increased involvement and participation of citizens in PFM oversight.

#### Success Story

One of ZIMCODD's recommendations in the Analysis of the 2018 OAG's report that is pushing for the Zimbabwe anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) to be granted arresting powers was successfully realised as the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs gazetted Statutory Instrument 143/2019, granting the commission arresting powers <https://www.herald.co.zw/zacc-finally-gets-arresting-powers>.

Key messages from the Policy Brief on **Percentage Share of Social Spending in Government**

**Expenditure: Reflections from the 2019 Fiscal Framework** informed conversations around the duty of the state in public service delivery both at the local and national level as well as the need for citizen participation in development initiatives that affect them. The publication informed the key asks from citizens when they engaged duty bearers during Public Finance Management Reform Indabas and the Constituency Indabas. Analysis of the 2018 OAG report continued to stimulate debate in the PFM discourse throughout the year on various media platforms<sup>8</sup>.

#### Success Story

Oxfam in Zimbabwe committed additional resources towards disseminating the findings of the Auditor General's report and invited ZIMCODD and SAPST to collaborate on a follow up workshop on strengthening Public Accountability in Zimbabwe. The workshop was aimed at strengthening evidence-based approaches and strategic advocacy initiatives to advance democratic accountability in Zimbabwe. The multi-stakeholder meeting was held on the 25th of September 2019 premised on ZIMCODD's OAG Analysis. The concept note for the multi-stakeholder meeting is attached below:



Final Public  
Accountability Multi-S

ZIMCODD has become a reference point for credible research for other civil society organisations and individual activists through its production of comprehensive research papers. This increased the demand for PFM reform from different players and amplified the voice of citizens on the need for such. Sharing of credible evidence through research and policy briefs has seen growing collaborations

with other CSOs in PFM discourse.

<sup>8</sup> <http://zimcoddblog.home.blog/2019/10/11/gweru-residents-take-local-authority-to-task-over-ags-report-2/>  
<http://zimcoddblog.home.blog/2019/10/11/the-auditor-generals-2018-report-a-reflection-of-how-citizens-are-prejudiced-of-their-socioeconomic-rights-2/>  
<http://zifmnews.com/news/we-have-become-a-country-of-dealers-mp>  
<https://www.herald.co.zw/whistleblower-legislation-can-help-curb-corruption/>  
<https://www.newzimbabwe.com/mliswa-urges-economic-justice-ngo-to-pressure-parliament-to-act-on-graft/>  
<https://www.herald.co.zw/ags-report-house-must-tighten-screws-on-the-fiscus/>

### **Success Story: Review of the 2% threshold after clarion calls by ZIMCODD**

The 2% tax threshold was reviewed from zw\$10 to zw\$15 after ZIMCODD contributed to the discourse for the review of the same to cushion the poor. Though the threshold is insignificant (as had been suggested to reach zw\$100), this is evidence that the government hid to ZIMCODD's call to cushion the majority poor who are suffering. The letter attached herein provides the evidence:



2% Tax Threshold  
Review Letter.doc

The Tax-Free threshold was also reviewed from ZW\$10,000 to ZW\$15,000 for transactions exceeding ZW\$750,000;

<https://www.techzim.co.zw/2019/08/good-news-minimum-amount-of-money-charged-2-tax-reviewed-upwards/>

In line with the 2% tax, ZIMCODD contributed to the discussions around the illegality of the 2% tax which was ruled illegal by the High Court of Zimbabwe. However, the tax will continue to be levied as it was passed by Parliament of Zimbabwe. In spite of this, the ruling adds to the debates around tax injustices: (<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2019/09/2-transaction-tax-illegal-court> )

The collaborations saw ZIMCODD being invited by non-traditional partners to contribute to ongoing research processes (as in the case of Oxfam), validate research findings (Hivos), review programming on public finance management (the EU<sup>9</sup> and GIZ<sup>10</sup>) and capacity building of staff and members (WLSA<sup>11</sup>, WIPUSU<sup>12</sup> and ZCTU<sup>13</sup>). ZIMCODD was also invited to the redrafting of the joint Oxfam and UNDP research: *Minding the Inequality Gaps: towards an inclusive society in Zimbabwe* which extensively quoted ZIMCODD's **Policy Brief on Social Spending**.

In addition, ZIMCODD took the PFM reform dialogue to a

broader audience through the national television, ZBC TV. 30 minutes long episodes were run successively on a weekly basis with topics discussed including the state of public finance in Zimbabwe focusing on the rot in parastatals; existing PFM Frameworks in Zimbabwe with special reference to gaps and the need for aligning the PFM Act with the constitution as well as public finance management in the context of devolution looking at the fundamentals; public finance management and public service delivery focusing on fiscal imbalance and indiscipline as well as development expenditure. ZIMCODD was also invited by both traditional and non-traditional partners including Transparency International Zimbabwe (TIZ), Oxfam in Zimbabwe and Kuumba Arts to participate in radio programs held on Zi FM Stereo and Capitalk to amplify debates on PFM, public accountability and illicit financial flows.

### **Success Story: RAs & SEJAs stand up in challenging bad governance**

After the ZIMODD social accountability capacity building of Greater Whange Residents Trust (GWRT), the Trust lobbied profitably for the participation of residents in full council board held on 17 September 2019. This was a major achievement and the first of its kind in the history of Hwange. Hwange, an area which is still following the colonial structure which divides the area into two-the concession area and local authority area and the people had no voice in terms of service delivery as companies speak on their behalf. GWRT further advocated for asset declaration by Hwange local board councilors and management, a move that the local authority has agreed on.

RAs and SEJA trainings empowered citizens to challenge the culture of bad governance deeply entrenched in local authorities.

<sup>9</sup> European Union

<sup>10</sup> German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ)

<sup>11</sup> Women and Law in Southern Africa (WILSA)

<sup>12</sup> Women in Politics Support Unit (WIPUSU)

<sup>13</sup> Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU)

ZIMCODD conducted an Open Budget Survey (OBS). The OBS aimed to assess the openness and inclusivity of the budget making, budget funding, budget expenditure, budget report and audit reporting processes at local and national level on an annual basis. Click this link <http://www.zimcodd.org/sites/default/files/research/Zimbabwe%20Open%20Budget%20Survey.pdf> to access the full report. The survey report recommends to the central government and local government ways of increasing citizen participation in the national budget process. The OBS will also inform the economic literacy tools for ZIMCODD and other partners to enhance civic education platforms and programmes.

### 3.2.3 Debt Justice Campaign

Given the huge debt burden bedeviling the country, ZIMCODD developed an alternative framework for sustainable debt management in Zimbabwe called the Sustainable and Inclusive Debt Management Framework (SIDMaF). The paper was strengthened from the inputs which came out of a Validation Meeting and High-level Debt Conference which pulled together 60 delegates (39 males and 21 females) drawn from the central government, Parliament of Zimbabwe, development agencies, private sector, renowned economists, the academia, civil society organizations and experts working on debt and debt related issues from across the region. The High-Level Debt Conference stimulated debate on debt sustainability in Zimbabwe with members of parliament pledging their support in ensuring that the government of Zimbabwe increase fiscal space for social spending. They also promised to restore public confidence through restoration of constitutionalism, transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in all lending and borrowing decisions. SIDMaF considers a national comprehensive debt audit as a critical step in ascertaining the extent of the country's debt, how the loan contraction process was done, how the monies were used and/or misused, and how the loans benefitted Zimbabwe.

Furthermore, the sustainable debt campaign, included Media Training on Debt Discourse, recording of 5 vlogs on the debt question in Zimbabwe and the production of 4 animation videos on debt. The media training was attended by a total of 30 participants (2 females and 28 males). From the training, six (6) debt related media stories were published in the first quarter of 2019. Vlogs and animation videos on the definition of domestic and external debt and implications of the debt crisis were uploaded on various media platforms and reached a wider audience.

ZIMCODD took the campaign for debt transparency and accountability to a new height in 2019 embarking on an international tour to European countries that are major creditors to Zimbabwe – Germany, France (Paris Club headquarters), United Kingdom and Belgium (EU headquarters). The campaign tour reinvigorated the discourse on Zimbabwe's debt sustainability and finding means to address the debt burden.

## 4. Natural Resources Governance

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



Five (5) District Alternative Mining Indabas (DAMIs) were conducted in the year under review reaching out to a total of 633 people (272 females; 361 males) in Mutoko, Penhalonga, Chivi, Gwanda and Hwange districts. DAMIs created a platform for various mining stakeholders to discuss and identify the current gaps and challenges facing the mining sector and communities. Furthermore, DAMIs amplified voices of mining affected communities through coalescing issues for the DAMI declaration. DAMIs also created platforms for empowering citizens to engage solution holders including through petitioning parliament to act on the injustices perpetrated by irresponsible mining companies at the expense of host communities.

### Success story

*Following the Chivi DAMI conducted during the second quarter, villagers in Sese, Chivi, successfully approached and stopped irresponsible mining by Murowa Diamonds Company (whose diamond explorations were negatively affecting the community) through legal consultation and engagement. Through continuous community engagement with Murowa Diamonds, the mining company hid to the community call and agreed to stop their mining activities during the October - November period to allow pupils to write their examinations in a noise-free environment. This is an indication that citizens are able to stand for their social and economic rights.*

ZIMCODD also conducted two Provincial Alternative Mining Indabas in Kadoma (Great Dyke) and in Mutare. The attendance for both PAMIs was 206 (101 females and 105 males) participants. The major outcomes from the PAMIs were the PAMI declaration which was infused into the Zimbabwe Alternative Mining Indaba (ZAMI) and the follow up action plan clarifying key

roles to be played by various stakeholders in the mining sector to address issues of concern raised during the meeting. PAMIs made clarion calls for the government to harmonise the national legislation with local authority bi-laws and to ensure that the Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill addresses farmer-miner conflicts.

### Success Story

*Following ZIMCODD civic capacity building of villagers particularly women and youth in Goromonzi on Constitutional Rights, Constitutionalism; Public Finance Management and Positioning Communities Under the 2030 U-MIE Agenda, the communities demonstrated enhanced citizen resistance to social and economic injustices. When the Chinese investors came to Goromonzi, the capacitated women and SEJAs managed to position themselves and denounce irresponsible investment by Chinese. The link below provides the evidence.*

<https://youtu.be/FwwtrZLAS9g>

*President Emmerson Mnangagwa heeded the call from Domboshava residents whose advocacy efforts revealed that the company's mining operations were threatening the existence of sacred caves in the area and pose eviction risk to nearby residents. In response, the President issued a directive that a Chinese company mining quarry at Pagarimo Hill in Domboshava should stop the operations. [Click here](#) to access the full story.*

ZIMCODD in partnership with the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) and Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA) successfully convened the 2019 Zimbabwe Alternative Mining (ZAMI) Indaba in Bulawayo. ZAMI was held under the theme; **“Sustainability for all: Building a Legacy of Citizen Action for Equitable and Just Natural Resource Governance in Zimbabwe.”** The Indaba was

attended by 289 participants (153 females; 136 males) from mining communities, civil society organisations from Zimbabwe and SADC region, Faith based organisations, government departments, Parliament of Zimbabwe and community-based organisations. The different

thematic groups at the ZAMI put forward a number of declarations as detailed in the ZIMCODD 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report.

### **Success story**

*Following ZIMCODD's capacity building initiatives, marginalised communities managed to self organise and engage in collective action to redress socioeconomic injustices. The Penhalonga community managed to report Redwing Mine to the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) for failing to control the dust coming from its mine dumps. EMA slapped Redwing Mine with a ticket penalising the mine for polluting the environment. After failing to meet the required measures in addressing the pollution, Redwing Mine closed its operations till to-date and the community is determined that the mine will not be opened until the dust is controlled. The community in collaboration with the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) also successfully restrained artisanal gold miners from destroying the environment and causing noise pollution due to their activities. ZRP was arresting the artisanal miners that were mining irresponsibly.*

Three Women and Youth Governance Hubs were conducted in Harare, Mutare and Bulawayo with a total attendance of 134 participants (69 females; 65 males) drawn from students, community-based organisations, SEJAs, civic society organisations like the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights and RAs. Participants discussed topics ranging from mining best practices; exploring tax justice in the wake of the U-MIE Agenda; strengthening transparency and accountability in PFM systems to improve service delivery; harnessing the power of social media; tax justice, public debt and domestic resource mobilisation; and illicit financial flows in the context of the U-MIE Agenda. The hubs saw SEJAs contributing to the 2020 National Budget so that the 2020 Finance Bill is responsive to citizens' demands and to increase revenue

allocation towards effective social service delivery to address inequalities.

ZIMCODD also successfully hosted the National and Regional Tertiary Debate and Public Speaking Galas. The National event ran under the theme **“Strengthening Youth Participation in Economic Governance”** and was attended by 40 participants (22 females; 18 males). These were students from 11<sup>14</sup> Tertiary Institutions from across the country. The debate tournament was held on 13 July 2019 in Harare. The National University of Science and Technology debate team represented by Mary N. Nazombe and Methembe Ndhlovu won the first position; followed by the University of Zimbabwe at second position while Harare Polytechnic College came third.

At regional level, the Debates and Public Speaking Gala tournament was convened on the side-lines of the SADC People's summit in Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania on 17 August 2019 under the banner of the Southern Africa People's Solidarity Network (SAPSN). Seven<sup>15</sup> countries participated in the tournament. The debates created a platform for the youths to interface and share their perspectives on national and regional policy issues specifically on Natural Resources Governance, Investment and Tax Justice, among other key developmental issues. The tournaments empowered the youth with knowledge on the region's debt crisis, the nature of investments that regional governments are getting into with the Chinese as well as some basic

<sup>14</sup> University of Zimbabwe (UZ), National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Harare Polytechnic College, Belvedere Teachers College, Lupane State University (LSU), Bulawayo Polytechnic College, Midlands State University, Africa University, Catholic University of Zimbabwe, University of South Africa-Bulawayo (UNISA) and Chinhoyi University of Technology.

<sup>15</sup> South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Botswana

economic literacy on the difference between prioritising economic growth and the need to fund social and economic rights to ensure the progressive realisation of these rights by all.

ZIMCODD in 2019 also escalated its advocacy campaign for transparency and accountability in natural resource governance to an international level through a side session at the Alternative Mining Indaba in Cape Town, South Africa organised in collaboration with AFRODAD and Human Rights Watch. The mining indaba's main objective was to advocate for sustainable environmental and human friendly mining practices. The meeting was attended by a total of about 500 participants drawn from African and European countries. The Indaba came out with key demands to corporates, governments and other actors which sought to promote a sustainable co-existence of mining activities and community livelihood sources. The demands were on issues to do with curbing illicit financial flows, increased social corporate responsibility to promote beneficiation of all parties, increasing women involvement in mining and strengthening regulation and legislation of the mining sector. Several key action points were raised during AMI and these are as follows:

- Need for a private space to discuss women issues in the mining sector;
- Stop advocacy for tokenism development but instead, call for taxation of mining cooperates and let communities prioritize their development;
- AMI needs to carryout research and advocacy on the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy to do away with the current highly energy intensive mining which produces 70% dirty energy. AMI to set up community engagement committee with Anglo-American

## 5. Trade Justice and Livelihoods

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

Under this thematic area, the activities coordinated by ZIMCODD in 2019 include the development and administration of the Agricultural Score Card, Awareness Raising on Public Expenditure in the Agricultural Sector, 6 Policy Dialogue Meetings on Land Tenure, Lobby Meeting with TIMB and Ministry of Lands and Agriculture. These resulted in women smallholder farmers participating in various government supported programmes including the District and National Agricultural Shows, Presidential Input Scheme, Command Agriculture, AGRITEX Services, Agricultural Marketing Stands and Budget Consultative Meetings among others.

ZIMCODD and the Zimbabwe Land and Agrarian Network (ZiLAN) conducted a National Policy Dialogue Meeting on the Agricultural Policy Direction under the Economy in Transition Series in the second quarter of 2019. The meeting advocated for pro-poor agricultural policies through dialogue between policy makers and rural women smallholder farmers. The meeting was attended by 70 (21 males and 49 females) small holder farmers drawn from Domboshava, Gokwe, Checheche, Gwanda, Umguza and Chegutu, and policy makers. The meeting created a platform, at national level, for smallholder rural women farmers to raise their concerns and aspirations with relevant stakeholders who included representatives from different parliamentary portfolio

### **Success story**

*Pursuant to the ZIMCODD facilitated National Policy Interface between smallholder farmers and Parliamentary Portfolio Committees on the issue, the eviction of smallholder farmers in Chemagora, Gokwe, was stopped by President E.D Mnangagwa.*

committees as well as government departments and ministries. The Action Plan developed from the meeting presented an opportunity for ZIMCODD to continue its advocacy initiatives around agriculture in amplifying citizens' voices in demanding transparency, accountability and pro-poor agricultural policies. Women rural smallholder farmers' communiqué which was presented at the meeting will go a long way in strengthening the role of citizens in lobbying government to respect the collective aspirations of citizens to foster active citizen participation.

ZIMCODD took part in the Rural Women Assembly's (RWA) 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorations. The major issues that came out include reaffirmation that public debt continue to cause economic destabilization in the SADC region; The anniversary was also a platform to explore and zero in on ecological debt, where participants re-visited history and unearthed the illicit resource flows from Africa, and specifically Southern Africa, through resource looting, theft, and fraudulent contracts. At the same meeting, RWA asserted its support for ZIMCODD as the SAPSN secretariat and recommended that ZIMCODD conducts awareness raising meetings on the impact of public debt on the livelihoods of the people of Southern Africa, especially the marginalised comprising of women, smallholder farmers, youth, children, and people living with disabilities and HIV/AIDS. ZIMCODD, under SAPSN banner, was also tasked to spread the message across Southern African countries and convince the SADC Heads of States and Government not to pay for these imposed public debts.

### **Success Story**

*From the ZIMCODD facilitated activities/meetings, Rural women smallholder farmers are now conversant with the current trends and development in the agricultural sector value chains, including land tenure and ownership, farming, Government's role to support farming, marketing, value addition, storage and consumption.*

*Rural women smallholder farmers have also been able to place and push for their issues in the midst of the implementation of the 2030 Upper Middle-Income Economy Agenda which is promoting privatisation of the agricultural sector.*

*Using the Agricultural Score Card, the women smallholder farmers are able to monitor Government Supported Agricultural Programmes in their areas.*

## **6. Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

ZIMCODD continued to trend via the following platforms in 2019:

- Media monitoring and Weekend Reader production;
- ZIMCODD Twitter handle (@zimcodd1)
- ZIMCODD Website;

- ZIMCODD WhatsApp;
- Facebook Account (Zimcodd Zimcodd);

## 6.1. 2019 Media Hits

ZIMCODD contributed the following to the 2019 media trends:

### 6.1.1. Press Statements

<http://www.zimcodd.org/beyond-foreign-exchange-market>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/solidarity-workers-day>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/discord-between-fiscal-and-monetary-policies-zimbabwe>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/media-publications-zimcodd-participation-sadc-people%E2%80%99s-summit-tanzania-facts-matter>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/analysis-2019-mid-year-budget-review-and-supplementary-budget>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/zimcodd-solidarity-statement-2019-may-day-celebrations>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/escalating-economic-crisis-%E2%80%9Cyes-oil-no-turmoil%E2%80%9D-0>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/monetary-policy-beyond-foreign-exchange-market-0>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/press-briefing-sustainable-and-inclusive-debt-management-framework-zimbabwe-%E2%80%93-civil-society>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/inhuman-demolition-vendor-stalls-and-tuck-shops-should-stop>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/commemoration-global-week-action-inequality-dimensions-and-manifestations-inequality-zimbabwe>  
<http://www.zimcodd.org/analysis-2019-monetary-policy>

## 5.2 Radio Programmes

ZIMCODD took part in radio civic education program through recording 8 episodes of the “National Purse” on ZiFM stereo. The programme was part of a broader project on “Strengthening Civic Participation in Economic Development through Enhanced Economic Literacy Project” where episodes were run consecutively on a weekly basis. Topics discussed include state of public finance management in Zimbabwe in relation to corruption and the Auditor General’s Reports, understanding the budget process, monitoring the “National Purse” (role of parliament and social accountability monitoring), tax justice, Zimbabwe public debt and constitutional provisions safeguarding the “National Purse”. The discussions were enriched by the diversity of participants who were drawn from government departments, parliament, and civil society. An estimated listenership of 3.5million countrywide was reached as the programme was aired on prime time (1930hrs-2000hrs). The links below provide the evidence:

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1FLqChS0IdN\\_JYFe3s\\_I8cUNDyVzdeEyl](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1FLqChS0IdN_JYFe3s_I8cUNDyVzdeEyl)  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Vfi3BxrF-kPYfD-EXNLRLBWrguQ-Xu3v>  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1-9BM8BusbeNolKXlyI8yV-CxKPM6EAiB>  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=12muVUnmTOph545EbhfI8SRckliG3IALS>  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1a93QNT49VgQjGUL9qIN9D0jhzUuf5hMK>  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1dI9TzCh9QjBFuG9BIDOCcRpxrFTIfVUP>

Through the national purse radio programme, ZIMCODD played a leading role in bridging the literacy gap amongst citizens in as far as public finance management issues are concerned.

## 5.3 TV Programmes: Broadcasting of PFM reform dialogues

To promote dialogue and stir conversations reaching youths, women, men and policy makers in the country towards strengthening transparency and accountability in public finance management, ZIMCODD broadcasted PFM reform dialogues through Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation Television (ZBCTV). ZBC TV remains accessible to the marginalised population in

the country. The use of this medium for PFM dialogues, therefore, improved economic literacy at household level. Eight (8) 30 minutes long episodes of PFM dialogues were targeted for the year. All the episodes were completed and reached out to approximately 2.3 million viewers per episode.

## 7. 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 levels by 2020.**

### 6.1 2019 SADC People's Summit

Despite the the unfortunate events that unfolded during and after the 2019 Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) People's Summit which threatened the security of ZIMCODD staff and its members following unsubstantiated media claims by the Herald and the subsequent articles by the Sunday Mail, The Patriot, Harare Post and Bulawayo24 News, the Summit was a success as the delegation managed to produce a [Communique](#) carrying the SADC People's demands. The Summit was well attended as it managed to draw 847 participants from Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In response to the misinformation peddled against the Zimbabwean delegation, the SAPSN Regional Coordinating Committee released a [Press Statement](#) to set the record straight. Furthermore, ZIMCODD issued a Press Release "[Media Publications on ZIMCODD participation at the SADC People's Summit in Tanzania: Facts of the Matter](#)" to share with the public and concerned stakeholders the facts of the matter and set the record straight with regards to the agenda of the misconstrued SADC People's Summit.

#### Other initiatives:

- To popularise the Summit beyond borders, promotion and branding material including branded t-shirts, fliers and banners were distributed and displayed respectively.
- As a SADC regional network, SAPSN couldn't ignore as a non-event the recent xenophobic attacks in South Africa, as such SAPSN a [Press Release](#) calling the SADC Chair on Regional Organ for Politics, Defence and Security, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Emmerson D. Mnangagwa to call for an extraordinary meeting to execute the organ's mandate on mediating in the affairs of member states that face instability. The Press Release was picked in the [media](#).

#### Evidence

<https://twitter.com/TembaMliswa/status/1162977445471039488?s=08>

<https://twitter.com/TembaMliswa/status/1162977428886687746?s=08>

<https://www.facebook.com/vivid.gwede/posts/2344250365629062>

<https://twitter.com/NewZimbabweCom/status/1162727031043493888?s=19>

<https://www.263chat.com/sapsn-rubbishes-state-media-over-fictitious-banditry-claims/>

<https://www.263chat.com/we-are-not-a-regime-change-agent-zimcodd-fires-back-at-state-media/>

<https://spiked.co.zw/we-have-no-intention-to-tarnish-zimbabwes-image-at-sadc-sapsn/>

### 6.2 Other Movement Building Initiatives, Solidarity and Networking

- ZIMCODD actively participated in strategic review sessions for the EU and GIZ as the two institutions reflected on the current programs and solicited for ideas on their next programming cycles. ZIMCODD took this opportunity to contribute to the issues surrounding the political and economic challenges facing the country as well as

shaping how the development agencies can strategically intervene in addressing economic governance challenges including the debt question and fiscal transparency in Zimbabwe.

- ZIMCODD also participated in the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) review meeting and aired its perspective on progress made to date in fulfilling the commitment to curb corruption in the country. ZIMCODD also made submissions in terms of strategies for advancing the anticorruption agenda in Zimbabwe especially in view of the OAG's recommendations.
- The Alternative Mining Indabas which are a culmination of the collaborations with ZELA and ZCC have been networking platforms optimised by ZIMCODD during 2019. The partnership leveraged on the broad stakeholder base each of the organisations brings to provoke a vibrant engagement with mining communities, big mining companies (Zimplats and Mimosa) and policy makers to discuss economic, social and environmental impacts of mining.
- As the Secretariat of the Southern African People's Solidarity Network (SAPSN), ZIMCODD managed to take tertiary debates to the regional level. SAPSN member organisations in respective countries work with the debaters to sustain the initiative beyond the annual SADC People's Summit.
- ZIMCODD has also managed to network with regional organizations such as Tax Justice Network (TJN) where some SEJAs have managed to attend training workshops on Tax Justice and Illicit Flows. TJN has also shown interest in partnering with ZIMCODD on the debates and public speaking initiative.
- ZIMCODD has maintained a formal relationship with these organisations to ensure that the collaboration is within the strategic objectives of ZIMCODD. Largely, the collaborating institutions bring expertise and solidarity in the quest for transparency and accountability in the management of public finances and mineral resource governance while ensuring that communities get a fair share of resources.
- The collaborations have helped the organisations to learn from each other especially on critical advocacy approaches such as Theological and Critical Reflections on Natural Resources Governance; Movement Building and Extractivism and Analysis of Legal and Policy Frameworks in the Extractives Sector.

## 7. Organisational Development

### 7.1 ZIMCODD Development of the 2020 – 2023 Strategic Plan

ZIMCODD staff, board and regional committee members took time to review its 2016-2020 Strategic Plan and develop a new strategy spanning 2020 to 2023. The meeting took place during the second quarter of 2019 in Kadoma. The rationale for the meeting was to realign the organisation's Strategic Plan in view of the changing political, environmental, social and economic context and strategically position it to ensure effective and efficient project implementation. The review and planning process strengthened and refined ZIMCODD's programming model; thematic areas; and theory of change in order to respond to emerging trends in the implementing environment to ensure that the organisation's work is effectively measured to capture outcomes and impact.

### 7.2 ZIMCODD Development of the Communications Strategy

Both internal and external communication plays an integral role in increasing the visibility of ZIMCODD work. It is against this background that ZIMCODD developed a communications strategy with the aim of ensuring that ZIMCODD becomes the go to reference organisation for civic society organisations, policy makers, the media and communities (general public) on social

and economic justice through timely and effective information dissemination. ZIMCODD took various initiatives informed by the communications strategy which include initiating the redesigning of the ZIMCODD website and improving on social media communications. 2019 marked remarkable visibility of ZIMCODD advocacy work in both mainstream media. There was also a registered significant increase in ZIMCODD online presence

## **8. Conclusion**

2019 was a busy and eventful year for ZIMCODD. In spite of the turbulent social, economic and political environment, ZIMCODD prides itself for remaining on course to ensure that citizens are capacitated to defend their socioeconomic rights while influencing policy discourse through sustained engagements and dialogues with policy makers for the realisation of socioeconomic justice in Zimbabwe.



## 9. Annexes

### Annexure 1: Vlogs

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1151068291676495880>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1154371347310632966>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1172052783475974145>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1171355104999628800>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1153936357967978496>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1150012277866631168>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1153963695623553024>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1171006858418642944>  
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1171324532289953798>

### Annexure 2: Links to Media Coverage of ZIMCODD's Advocacy Issues and Results

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2019/01/govt-urged-to-find-all-inclusive-economic-solutions/>  
<https://www.reportfocusnews.com/2019/01/26/inequality-festers-as-ordinary-zimbabweans-hard-hit/>  
<https://263chat.com/eds-middle-income-economy-status-vision-within-reach/>  
<https://www.dailynews.co.zw/articles/2019/03/06/artisanal-mining-can-boost-economy>  
<http://www.radiovop.com/eds-vision-2030-alienating-citizens/>  
<https://263chat.com/ed-administration-confused-directionless-zimcodd/>  
<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2019/02/us-remains-the-base-currency-for-trading-zimcodd/>  
<https://www.reportfocusnews.com/2019/01/26/inequality-festers-as-ordinary-zimbabweans-hard-hit/>  
<http://bhizimusi.com/2019/03/01/growing-public-mistrust-hinders-future-development-prospects-zimcodd/>  
<https://www.reportfocusnews.com/african-news/zimbabwe/zimbabwes-national-debt-worrisome-zimcodd/>  
<https://nehandaradio.com/2019/03/22/zimbabwe-debt-crisis-clocks-us18-billion/>  
<http://www.radiovop.com/zims-debt-management-crisis-accelerates-worsening-poverty/>  
<http://kalabashmedia.com/2019/03/22/a-hoax-called-budget-surplus-and-why-steal-tobacco-money/>  
<https://www.dailynews.co.zw/articles/2019/03/24/zim-debt-should-be-audited>  
<https://www.263chat.com/debt-audit-call-grows-louder-as-citizens-suffer-the-brunt/>  
<https://www.herald.co.zw/commercial-loans-wont-help-clear-debts/>  
<https://equityaxis.net/2019/03/28/zim-debt-crisis-zimcodd-urges-formation-of-a-sustainable-and-inclusive-debt-management-framework/>  
<https://equityaxis.net/2019/03/28/gvt-urged-to-be-clever-when-mortgaging-mineral-resources-for-development/>  
<https://equityaxis.net/2019/03/28/hipc-or-debt-audit-the-battle-to-zim-debt-clearance/>  
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## TV PROGRAMME

### First Episode State of PFM in Zim

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<https://youtu.be/zOwG-PCzV9I>

<https://youtu.be/k7ELjcnfY0>

<https://www.facebook.com/IMHMediaCompanyzw/videos/624548398050451/?t=37>

### Second Episode Social Services Delivery

<https://youtu.be/Kj0aVyyU6ok>

<https://youtu.be/rTleIU4fzIY>

<https://youtu.be/MJx4uj3bOhQ>

### Third Episode Devolution

[https://youtu.be/TcNDHwWpD\\_E](https://youtu.be/TcNDHwWpD_E)

<https://youtu.be/qAeisORnld8>

<https://youtu.be/5QQ8HgNyj98>

### 4th Episode

<https://youtu.be/Drl4tkOZkEQ>

<https://youtu.be/t5MSn0iI-yA>

<https://youtu.be/sQhfuVQR7wl>

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