



# COVID-19 RESOURCE TRACKER

## OVERVIEW

The COVID-19 resources tracker is a ZIMCODD initiative to keep track of all resources pledged, received and utilised by the Government of Zimbabwe in response to the COVID-19 pandemic from March 2020 to date. The aim of the COVID-19 resources Tracker is to strengthen transparency and accountability by the government on COVID-19 resources while empowering citizens with information to hold the government to account on allocation and utilisation of COVID-19 resources. The tracker is updated on a weekly basis to show pledges honoured, resources received and resources expended. Zimbabwe continues to mobilise resources internally and externally to respond to the devastating socioeconomic effects of COVID-19. Among other efforts, the government in the 2021 national budget has set aside ZWL7 billion to recruit more health personnel, procure PPEs, testing kits and sundries required in fighting COVID-19. The government has also budgeted ZWL3.5 billion to cushion 500 000 vulnerable households whose beneficiaries comprise the informal sector, returning residents and children living in the streets. The Government through the Ministry of Health and Child Care has started rolling out COVID-19 vaccines as an additional layer of protection against COVID-19 infection. The vaccination programme was launched on 18 February 2021. Vaccination in all provinces and districts began on 22 February 2021 and is expected to continue until all eligible people have been vaccinated.



## THIS WEEK

### PLEDGES



US\$0.00

### HONOURED PLEDGES



US\$0.00

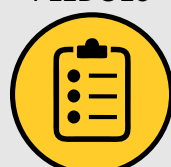
### AMOUNT SPENT



US\$140,000.00

## TOTALS

### PLEDGES



US\$838,475,257.00

### HONOURED PLEDGES

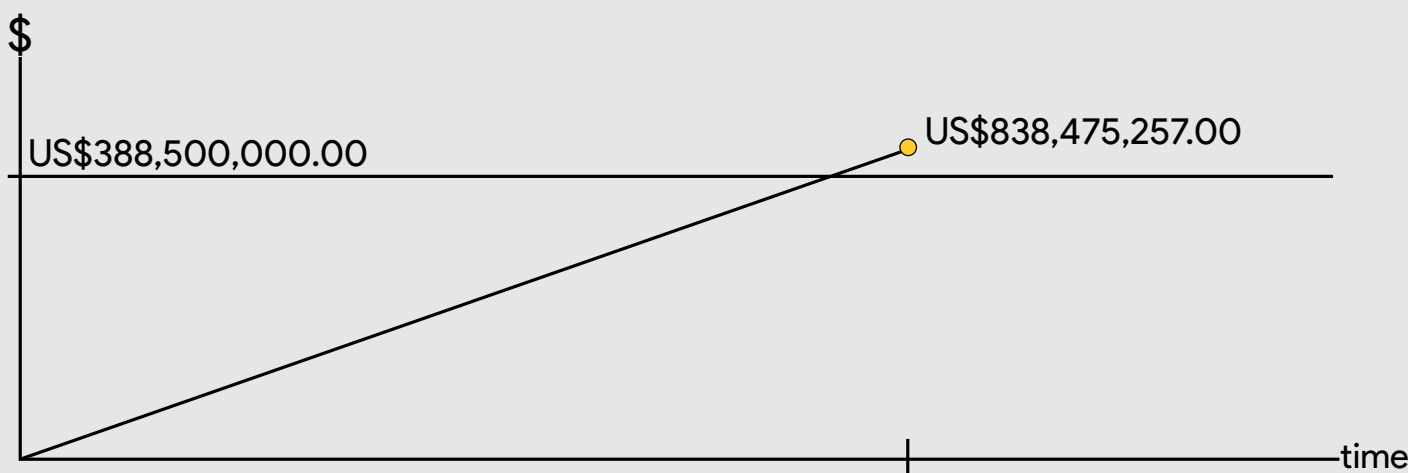


US\$634,228,071.00

### AMOUNT SPENT



US\$387,881,082.00



Illustrated below are sources of the resources pledged, honoured and utilised, All other forms of contributions have been converted into monetary value. All currencies were converted to USD at Government of Zimbabwe interbank rate. Percentage (%) indicates resources utilized

## GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE

TREASURY	US\$100,000,000.00	43.5%
SOCIAL SAFETY FUND	US\$24,000,000.00	37%
MIN. OF SOCIAL WELFARE	US\$42,792,51.00	

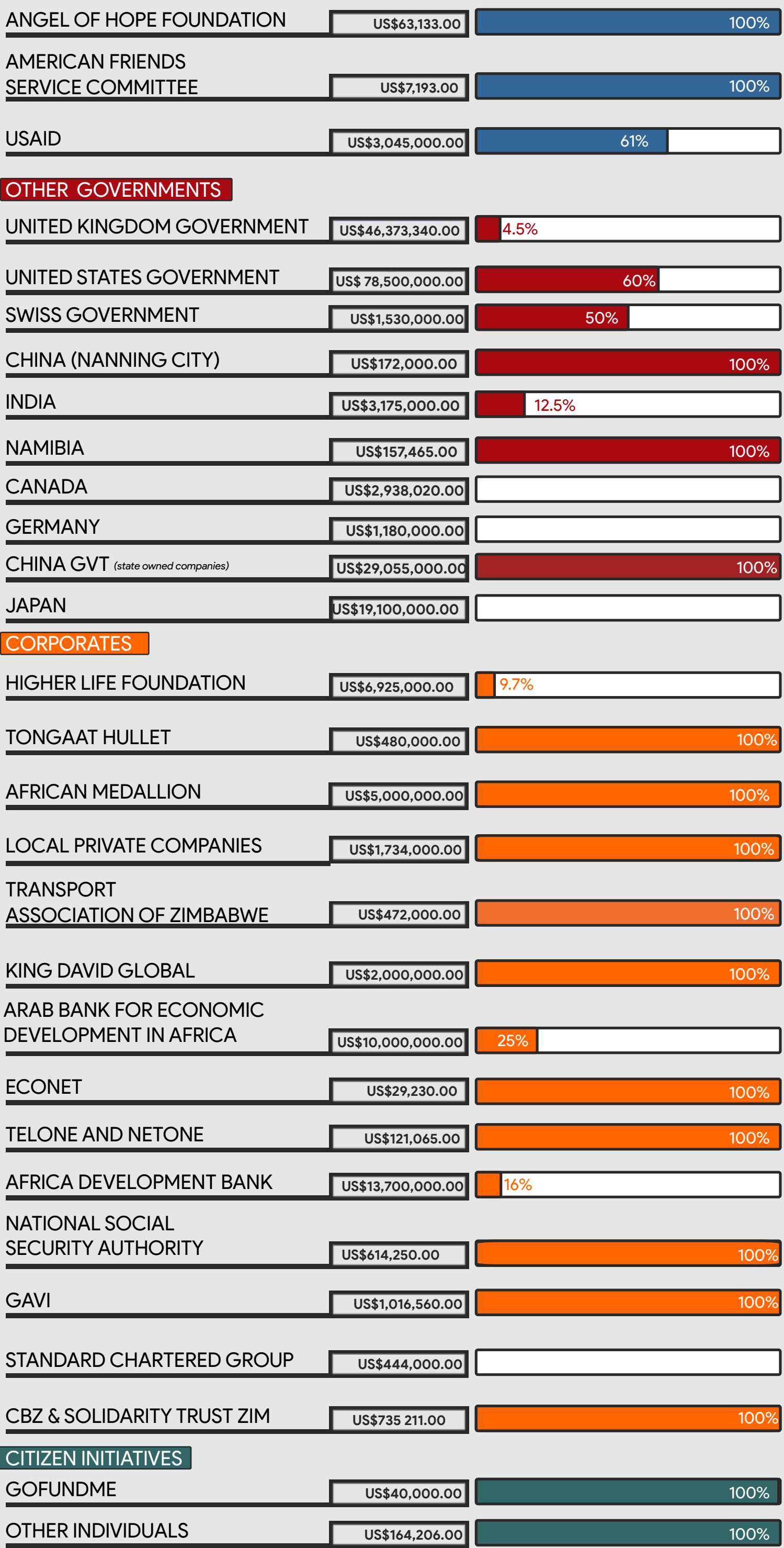
## EMBASSIES

SOUTH KOREA EMBASSY	US\$300,000.00	100%
INDIAN EMBASSY	US\$350 000.00	100%
CHINESE EMBASSY	US\$500,000.00	100%
SWEDISH EMBASSY	US\$25,000.00	100%

## DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

GLOBAL FUND	US\$120,000,000.00	92%
EUROPEAN UNION	US\$45,000,000.00	88%
FAO	US\$1,000,000.00	
THE US PRESIDENT'S EMERGENCY PLAN FOR AIDS RELIEF	US\$150,000.00	100%
UNITED NATIONS	US\$17,789,611.00	77.5%
ILO	US\$20,000.00	
WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME	US\$5,250,000.00	100%
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS	US\$200,000.00	90%
WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION	US\$40,000.00	100%
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	US\$4,153,940.00	100%
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION	US\$7,000,000.00	
WORLD BANK	US\$7,400,000.00	32.4%
CHINESE FOUNDATION	US\$5,000,000.00	100%

Note: Projected Need was calculated using ZIMCODD financial modelling  
Find the projection at: <http://imcodd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-19-Response-Mechanism.pdf>



## MAJOR CONCERNS

- The Government has since increased the number of centres offering vaccination services across the country to ensure all citizens can access the vaccines. However, with the announcement of the low efficacy of the Chinese vaccines that Zimbabwe is using, it remains unknown whether the inoculation against the goal to reach herd immunity will lessen or worsen the spread and contraction of the virus with 231 632 people already vaccinated by 15th of April.
- A recent study suggested the Sinopharm vaccine is less effective against the South African variant. It is reported to be one of the most worrying variants, because it is more contagious and includes a mutation that helps it evade neutralising antibody responses of people who were infected with the original virus.
- While the Cabinet in its briefing this week expressed satisfaction with COVID-19 management in schools, the outbreak of COVID-19 cases particularly at Sacred Heart Primary and Secondary High School in Matabeleland South Province has pushed the schools in a desperate situation to appeal for assistance from well-wishers to contain the outbreak.
- While it is commendable that Zimbabwe plans to procure 1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine monthly, the country's limited storage capacity is worrying as it stands in the way for these procurements. The 2021 Lancet Globe Health study suggests that many African countries that are unable to attain optimal vaccine uptake will continue to experience waves of infections after the disease has been controlled in high-income countries. This will result in additional morbidity and mortality as well as continuing economic and social crises.
- The easing of the national lockdown saw schools resuming face-to-face learning. However, in the week under review, over 106 learners and academic staff from over 10 different schools across Zimbabwe tested positive to COVID-19 indicating that schools are not adequately prepared to curb the virus in spite of the \$600 million announced budget for the reopening of schools.
- Without a commission of enquiry into the \$600million disbursed for schools re-opening, Zimbabwe will continue experiencing unwarranted fiscal leakages and in this case at the detriment of children's future as this will directly worsen their poverty and inequality status.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT

- The government of Zimbabwe should urgently allocate resources towards conducting local scientific trials on the efficacy of the vaccines as this will go a long way in protecting the precious lives of citizens, curtailing the spread of a possible third wave and safeguarding taxpayers money.
- The Ministry of Health and Child Care should prioritise dissemination of evidence-based COVID-19 risk and vaccine communication.
- There is need for the government to issue clear standard guidelines to protect children and ensure their access to education in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Effective implementation of one of the key objectives from the Preparedness and Response Strategy developed by the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education in collaboration with the education cluster in 2020 on the support to teachers, learners and school communities to prevent the transmission and spread of is necessary.
- A strategic communication response plan which seeks to debunk disinformation and misinformation and dispel irresponsible, non-factual vaccine theories on social media and other media platforms should be developed. Further, vaccine communication should focus on community structures and optimal community engagement as well as leveraging successful strategies for the distribution and promotion of other vaccines by engaging community health workers
- The Parliament should spearhead an inquiry into the use and distribution of the \$600 million schools reopening budget so as to plug rent-seeking and corruption and to restore public confidence. Further, the government must craft a supplementary budget to cushion schools throughout the country and ensure that they effectively implement COVID-19 compliance measures amidst the delivery of education.
- The Office of the Auditor General must release the COVID-19 recommended funds audit report to ensure that funds are delivered for COVID-19 intervention are accounted for. Further, a clear distribution matrix is recommended to inculcate a spirit of transparency and accountability in the mobilization and utilization of COVID-19 resources.



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Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development

Note: Projected Need was calculated using ZIMCODD financial modelling.

Find the projection at: <http://zimcodd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-19-Response-Mechanism.pdf>