

THE WEEKEND READER

“Your Weekly Read on Debt, Development & Social & Economic Justice”

4/8/22

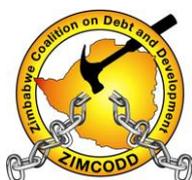


ZIMCODD to launch the National Development Strategy I Monitoring Report and the Office of the Auditor General’s Recommendations Implementation Tracking Survey Report

The Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) will launch the National Development Strategy I (NDSI) Monitoring Report and the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) Recommendations Implementation Tracking Survey Report on Local Authorities (LAs). The launch will be in collaboration with the Southern Africa Resource Watch (SARW) which will also launch its study on the Fiscal Regime of Zimbabwe Platinum Sector. The NDSI Report examines government performance in the implementation of NDSI which commenced in 2020. On the other hand, the OAG Recommendations Implementation Survey Report examines whether local authorities are implementing the recommendations proffered by the OAG. The Fiscal Regime of Zimbabwe Platinum Sector examines the implications of the current mining fiscal regimes on national development and growth with a specific focus on the platinum sector.

One of the major highlights of the NDSI monitoring report is that the ecstasy and expectations associated with the NDSI as an ambitious blueprint is deflated by the unavailability of granular and disaggregated data consistent with the NDSI Key Result Areas (KRA)’s indicators and measures. The Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTATs) is yet to produce statistics linked to the aspirations of the NDSI. Such deficiencies curtail the objective monitoring and tracking of the policy, discounting the thoughtfulness of the policy discourse thereof. However, to circumvent the data limitations, appropriate proxies were considered in place of NDSI indicators and measures were taken where necessary. The report generally highlights that the NDSI missed most of its targets in 2021.

The implementation of the recommendations made by the OAG by local authorities has been problematic in Zimbabwe. This continually undermines prudent public finance management and ultimately compromises public service delivery. To determine implementation progress of the OAG recommendations in local authorities, ZIMCODD conducted a survey from the 13th of February to the 4th of March 2022. The rationale behind the study is to promote transparency and accountability in the utilisation of public resources. The survey covered the following LAs: Chiredzi Town Council (CTC), Zaka Rural District Council (Zaka RDC), Bikita Rural District Council (Bikita RDC), Masvingo City Council (MCC), Masvingo Rural District Council (Masvingo RDC), Chivi Rural District Council (Chivi RDC), Gutu Rural District Council (Gutu RDC), Bulawayo City Council (BCC), Matobo Rural District Council (Matobo RDC), Hwange Rural District Council (Hwange RDC), Victoria Falls City Council (VCC), Gweru City Council (GCC), Kwekwe City Council (KCC), Zvishavane Town Council (ZTC) and Mutare City Council (Mutare CC). The results from the survey shows that, whilst other LAs are still to act on the OAG recommendations, some LAs have made considerable progress in implementing the recommendations whilst some have successfully implemented the recommendations.



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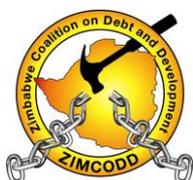
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The study on the Fiscal Regime of Zimbabwe Platinum Sector examines the impact of the taxation system that regulates platinum in Zimbabwe. The study was aimed at ascertaining whether the proceeds from the platinum mining sector are benefiting the mining host communities and the nation at large. The findings of the study demonstrated that the fiscal regime governing the mining of platinum in Zimbabwe is wanting as it does not foster development. The revenue being retained to the government and the one being generated from the platinum sector does not correlate. The government is losing a lot of revenue and there is need to tighten the fiscal regime for national growth and development. Comprehensive findings of the research will be presented at the launch on the 13th of April 2022, the launch will be livestreamed on ZIMCODD Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/zimcodd>



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