



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 1

Abridged Civil Society Monitoring
Mechanism (CISOMM) Report



ZIMCODD
ZIMBABWE COALITION ON DEBT & DEVELOPMENT



www.zimcodd.org



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Abridged Civil Society Monitoring
Mechanism (CISOMM) Report

JANUARY 2022

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Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt & Development

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PREAMBLE

The Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) launched a new economic blue print, the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) on the 16th of November 2020. The NDS1 is set to guide government policy for the period 2021-2025 whilst aligning with Vision 2030's aspiration and theme, "Towards a Prosperous and Empowered Upper Middle- Income Society by 2030." The ten successive years between 2021 and 2030 consist of NDS1 (2021-2025) and NDS2 (2026-2030) with NDS1 taking over from the Transitional Stabilization Programme (TSP 2018-2020) which was designed to reform and prepare the economy for a protracted period of sustainable inclusive growth congruent with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union's Agenda 2063. The NDS1 is expected to capitalize on the supposed gains of the TSP.

The NDS1 adopts an Integrated Results Based Management (IRBM) system and Public Sector Reforms (PSR) commensurate with the NDS1 objectives. Despite the provision for monitoring imbedded in the blueprint, government has not produced any quarterly monitoring reports for easy tracking of the progress made in implementing the NDS1. Accordingly, pursuing an independent NDS1 Civil Society Monitoring Mechanism (CISOMM) is an initiative meant to bridge the information gap with respect to the progress and accomplishments of NDS1 on a quarterly basis. CISOMM seeks to give an objective evaluation of the performance of the NDS1.

The periodic CISOMM reports intend to provide timely research and form the basis for evidence-based interventions thereby creating an intersection between government and various key stakeholders in the developmental discourse. The NDS1 CISOMM benefits from the input of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) that have special interest in specific priority areas of the NDS1. The following table presents CSOs and the NDS1 priority areas they covered in the CISOMM.

**The following table presents CSOs and the NDS1
priority areas they covered in the CISOMM**

NDS1 Priority Area	CSO
Priority 1: Economic growth & stability of national development	Zivai Community Empowerment Trust (ZICET)
Priority 2: Food & nutrition security	Environmental Management Trust
Priority 3: Moving the economy up the value chain & structural transformation	ZIMCODD
Priority 4: Transport, infrastructure & utilities	SPROUT Women Empowerment Trust
Priority 5: Digital economy	Girls Table
Priority 6: Housing delivery	Gweru Residents Forum
Priority 7: Human capital development and innovation	ZIMCODD
Priority 8: Health and well-being	My Age Zimbabwe
Priority 9: Image building, engagement and re-engagement	ZIMCODD
Priority 10: Devolution & decentralization	United Mutare Residents and Ratepayers Trust (UMRRT)
Priority 11: Youth, sport & culture	National Association of Youth Organizations (NAYO)
Priority 12: Social protection	Poverty Reduction Forum Trust (PFRT)
Priority 13: Environmental protection, climate resilience & natural resource management	Green Governance
Priority 14: Governance	Accountability Lab

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ecstasy and expectations associated with the NDS1 as an ambitious blue print is deflated by the unavailability of granular and disaggregated data consistent with the NDS1 Key Result Areas (KRAs) indicators and measures.

The Zimbabwe National Statistical Agency (ZIMSTAT) is yet to start producing statistics linked to the aspirations of the NDS1. Such deficiencies curtail the objective monitoring and tracking of the policy – discounting the thoughtfulness of the policy discourse thereof. To circumvent the data limitations, appropriate proxies were considered in place of NDS1 indicators and measures where necessary. The NDS1 missed most of its targets in 2021 and the key findings and recommendations are summarized here under.

PRIORITY AREA 1

Economic Growth and Stability of National Development

Most fundamentals were unstable in 2021 despite the economy expanding by 7.8%. With the exception of growth, other KRA variables grossly missed their targets, an indication of retarded progression towards Vision 2030. The CISOMM advocates for the reform of the auction market if growth and sustainability are to subsist.

PRIORITY AREA 2

Food and Nutrition Security

Zimbabwe recorded a bumper harvest in 2021 but this did not reduce food poverty. Economic and climate shocks and low adoption of climate-smart technology impinge food and nutrition security. Resilience building is key given challenges confronting food systems in country if equity to accessing healthy and nutritious food is to be attained for all, taking into account environmental sustainability.

PRIORITY AREA 3

Moving the Economy up the Value Chain

Whereas there is limited progress in agro-processing and the development of green industries in value addition – missing the 2021 set targets, industrial capacity utilization surged in 2021. For enhanced structural transformation and domestication of value chains, policy inconsistency, funding challenges and infrastructure deficiencies must be addressed forthwith.

PRIORITY AREA 4

Transport, Infrastructure and Utilities

The state of Zimbabwe's transport, infrastructure and utilities development is below the targets of the NDS1. Priority should be given to water, energy and transport as they are major pillars that affect not only economic buoyancy, but the general standard of living of Zimbabweans. The appalling statistics of poor service delivery need urgent attention to redress the situation.

PRIORITY AREA 5**Digital Economy**

The Priority Area on Digital Economy performed fairly well although there is limited access to state data and interoperability. Internet access improved across the country although pricy data charges limit internet usage. Government must ensure that rural and urban schools have adequate infrastructure that supports ICTs, subsidize data for learning institutions and promote interoperability.

PRIORITY AREA 6**Housing Delivery**

Housing delivery is still wanting as it failed to satisfy its targeted housing variables. The government stalled various housing programs (Housing flats in Waneka, Senondo, Shamrock, Florida, Dombotombo, Bindura, Mufakose, Seke, Tynwald and Mabelreign). The co-option of the private sector and pursuance of low-cost housing is expedient in reducing housing backlogs.

PRIORITY AREA 7**Human Capital Development and Innovation**

It is almost impossible that this area has developed significantly given the deterioration witnessed since 2019 due to the economic meltdown buttressed by the COVID-19 pandemic – decimating the learning processes. Addressing the aged industrial grievances in the education sector, curbing brain drain, investing in ICTs for learning and reducing education inequality will improve equitable human capital development.

PRIORITY AREA 8**Health and Well-being**

The poor state of the health sector explains the missing of NDS1 health and well-being targets for 2021 with the exception of life expectancy which marginally increased. Accordingly, the government should prioritise the health sector by investing in modern and advanced health technology through adequately financing this crucial ministry.

PRIORITY AREA 9**Image Building, Engagement and Re-engagement**

Zimbabwe's image building, engagement and re-engagement process is off the rail and it is imperative for government to prioritize key reformations related to by free and fair elections, rule of law, property rights, compensation of white farmers, security sector reforms, improve the Ease of Doing Business if meaningful results are to be achieved.

PRIORITY AREA 10**Devolution and Decentralization**

Whereas a number of projects kicked off courtesy of devolution and decentralization, this priority area missed its performance targets in 2021. The government ought to improve the efficiency of budget implementation as budget allocations are less than the stipulated 5% of the total budget whilst disbursements to provinces and local authorities were lagging, thereby stifling finalization of projects.

PRIORITY AREA 11**Youth, Sport and Culture**

Sport and Culture targets were affected by restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic whilst targets for the youth were modestly addressed. Increased political will by the Government is expected in creating an enabling environment for the Youth whilst scaling budgetary support for youth projects given that the sector is in excess of 67% of the total population.

PRIORITY AREA 12**Social Protection**

Poverty remains a menace given increasing vulnerability compounded by COVID-19 induced shocks. Scaling the social protection spending goes a long way in addressing meagre social safety nets that do not alter the welfare of the vulnerable.

PRIORITY AREA 13**Environmental Protection,
Climate Resilience and Natural
Resource Management**

The NDS1 failed to meet all the targets for 2021 largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic which affected the tourism sector, ill-implementation of climate resilience strategies and limited action in the rehabilitation of mining dumpsites. It is expedient for government to invest political will in managing natural resources to thwart the natural resource curse, resource conflicts, illicit activities in the mining sector and improving transparency around natural resource management.

PRIORITY AREA 14**Governance**

Albeit data limitations, key measures such as corruption, the Mo Ibrahim Index, property rights index, service delivery and other governance indices missed their 2021 targets. There is need to advocate for independence of anti-corruption institutions such as ZACC and NPA for them to execute their mandates in a professional and ethical manner.

“

The NDS1 missed most of its targets in 2021 and the key findings and recommendations are summarized here.”



01

PRIORITY AREA

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND STABILITY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

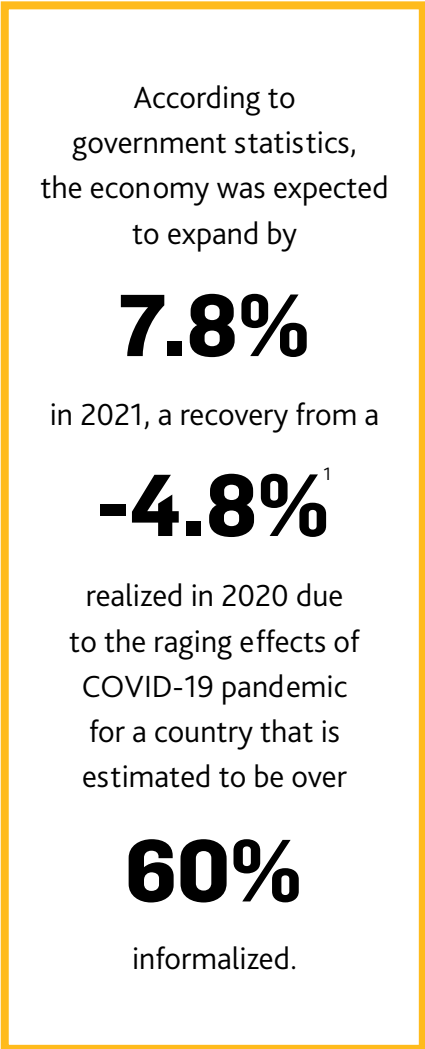
The NDS1 Priority Area One (1) focuses on the growth of national output (GDP), and stability of the national development and fundamentals such as inflation, exchange rate, money supply, and financial sector resilience among other economic indicators. The blueprint recognizes that Zimbabwe has been facing a volatile macroeconomic environment for a long time as characterized by low economic growth, fluctuating exchange rates, high inflation, high unemployment, and depleted foreign currency reserves among others. The NDS1 comes after the austerity measures and currency reforms introduced by the Transitional Stabilization Programme (TSP) (2018-2020) led to the suffering of the masses through high inflation, massive currency depreciation, and rising poverty.

The implementation of NDS1 coincided with the rising momentum of vaccination campaigns globally, a factor that largely explains the recovery of most economies in 2021.

Other reputable institutions such as the IMF and World Bank estimated that the output expanded by 6% and 5.1% respectively in 2021. The strong rebound for 2021 was anchored on better rainfall patterns received during the 2020/21 agriculture season leading to the largest harvest since the Land reform Programme, high global demand and subsequent high prices for mineral commodities, improved electricity production for the early part of 2021, and recovery of manufacturing thanks to increased re-dollarization, increasing forex sales as well as a liquid auction market in the first half of the year.

Generally, economic growth should be celebrated if it is stable, inclusive, and sustainable. Nevertheless, in 2021, Zimbabwe enjoyed robust growth of national output but without a human face attached to it as the

masses continued to be paid in the fast-depreciating local currency with salaries remaining largely sticky upwards. Monetary authorities were forced to frequently review their targets. Annual inflation was initially expected to close at around 10% in 2021 before it was reviewed to between 25-35% around July and later reviewed to between 52-58% in November, only to end the year at 60.7%. The poverty levels have increased as government has failed to provide adequate social protection to the vulnerable groups. The tax regime followed by government has been regressive thus further afflicting the poor citizenry. Additionally, the country remains in debt distress, with debt ballooning at an unsustainable pace hence stifling resource mobilization. The activities in some key sectors that have the potential to change the economic fortunes like mining are shrouded in secrecy hence prejudicing government of direly needed funds to finance development programmes.



The poverty levels have increased as government has failed to provide adequate social protection to the vulnerable groups.

1. This is however a conservative estimate from the government as some independent institutions like Equity Axis estimate that the economy nosedived by nearly 10% in 2020.

PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS ANNUAL TARGETS

The growth and stability of national development is linked to the budget implementation. The 2021 national budget was affixed on the following assumptions:

- Normal to above-normal rainfall.
- Rising demand and prices of mineral commodities.
- Stable exchange rate.
- Moderating inflation.
- Improved energy production.
- A slowdown in COVID-19 impacts as vaccination campaigns gain momentum.

Table 1.1. NDS1 Targets vs Achievements for 2021

NDS KRA Variables	Indicator	Baseline	NDS 2021 Target	2021 Performance
Macro Stability	Annual Inflation	654%	134.8%	143.27% ²
	Monthly Inflation	13.86%	<3%	4.11
	Exchange Rate (US\$: ZWL)	82	-	112
	Fiscal Deficit (% GDP)	-0.47%	-1.29%	-1.3%
	Public Debt (% GDP)	78.7%	64.7%	95% ³
Sustainable Economic Growth	Real GDP Growth	-4.1	7.4%	7.8%
	Per Capita Income	US\$903	US\$1,835	US\$955
	Ease of Doing Business (World Bank)	140	120	n/d
Fiscal Books	Budget Transparency (IBP OBS rank)	49/100	49/100	n/d
	Revenue Collection (Total Rev to GDP)	16.3%	16.4%	16.4%
	Expenditure Management (Wage bill to GDP)	40.6%	44.2%	n/d ⁴
Financial Inclusion	Total number of active bank accounts (million)	8.64	9	7.17
	Increased decent jobs (% of formally employed)	24%	25%	n/d
Financial Sector Stability	Bank financial stability (non-performing loans)	1.03%	<5%	n/d
	Development and sustainability of Microfinance (PAR)	12.7%	10%	n/d

2. Average annual inflation rate for 2021

3. The figure excludes contingent liabilities of US\$3.5 billion pledged to pay off former white farmers.

4. No data

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The NSD1 targets under Priority Area 1 resemble a mixed fortune as some targets were met, whilst some were missed (see Table 1.1) – calling for bold policy decisions to address the broader governance gaps and disparities in both policy and practice. The 2021 economic growth was fragile and unsustainable as citizens experienced a cost-of-living crisis throughout the year. Targets for inflation, per capita income, total number of active bank accounts (millions), fiscal deficit and public debt were missed. The growth target was surpassed whilst the revenue targets were met. Below are proposals to ensure a robust, stable, inclusive and sustainable growth:

- Reform and reconfigure the auction market to increase transparency while attracting many players on the market. This will ensure the realization of the true market value of ZWL and curb excessive inflationary pressures existing in the economy.
- There is need for a bold decision and drive towards revamping government institutions and parastatals that are draining the fiscus through institutional structural reforms that are guided by reviews of regulatory policy frameworks.
- Strengthen efforts around Domestic Resource Mobilization as opposed to borrowing to fund developmental programs. Zimbabwe has enough natural resource endowments and needs not to outsource but rather mobilize from within.
- Finalise on the Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill and address the fundamental issues which include formalization of Artisanal and Small-scale Miners (ASM) and ascribing to the values of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).
- Move away from the Reserve Bank quasi-fiscal activities and focus on spending within the limits of the approved budget.
- The Input Substitution Industrialization (ISI): Encouraging and supporting the production of goods and services for the satisfaction of the local and export markets remains key. Creating conducive and favourable financial support for players in the Energy, Manufacturing, and Agricultural and Mining sectors, through subsidized loans is imperative.
- Value Addition and Beneficiation: The current legislation and policy frameworks must criminalize the export of minerals and raw materials without value addition and beneficiation.
- Economic stability and growth are also determined by job creation as well as forward, backward and sideways linkages. As such local enterprise development should be prioritized in the mining, manufacturing and agriculture sectors.
- The production of green-friendly energy through geothermal energy, solar, and wind energy will reduce the energy import bill and reduce the production cost of goods and services thus increasing competitiveness locally, regionally, and internationally.



02

PRIORITY AREA

FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

INTRODUCTION


This section tracks performance of Priority Area Two (2) which focuses on food and nutrition security. Food and nutrition security subsists when all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to food, which is consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences. Such a situation is supported by an environment of adequate sanitation, health services and care while allowing for a healthy and active life.

The Food and Nutrition Security key results areas (KRAs) include:

- food self-sufficiency,
- food security,
- farm incomes,
- economic agriculture,
- horticulture production and
- nutrition status.

The role of food security and nutrition security is to achieve socio-economic development recognised in the country's Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP) and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The FNSP commits government to promote and ensure adequate food and nutrition security for all people at all times in Zimbabwe, particularly amongst the most vulnerable and in line with cultural norms and values and the concept of rebuilding and maintaining family dignity (GoZ, 2012).⁵ The issues enshrined in the policy are also echoed in SDG 2, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture (UN, 2015).⁶



It is noteworthy that attaining food and nutrition security is essential for the success of all the

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SDGs and vice versa.

For example, poor nutrition and food security is influenced by several socio-economic factors, including poverty (SDG 1). On the other hand, poverty limits access to adequate food intake and makes it difficult to reach nutritional recommendations.

Nevertheless, according to the global report on food crises by the Food Security Information Network, FSIN (2021),⁷ Zimbabwe is one of the top six countries in the world experiencing a food and nutrition crisis. With nine and four years left to attain the SDGs and NDSI on food and nutrition respectively, the FNSP is currently failing to end hunger and malnutrition due to internal and external shocks such as

- unsustainable natural resource utilisation,
- rapid erosion of biodiversity,
- economic meltdown, and
- extreme weather events induced by climate change and variability.

Emergence of new diseases such as the novel COVID-19 pandemic is worsening the food and nutrition insecurity, poverty, health and the economic environment. This multitude of socio-economic and environmental challenges threaten the achievement the SDGs by 2030.

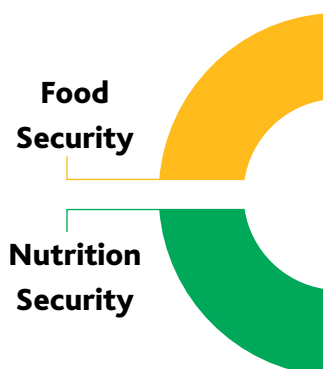
Due to slow adoption of climate smart technologies and farming techniques like irrigation, exposure to El-Nino induced droughts and other natural disasters, Zimbabwe remains exposed to food and nutrition insecurities. While the bumper harvest realized in 2021 ensured food sufficiency, it is not sustainable as the sector largely depends on rainfall patterns.

Due to inadequate government support and rampant inflation throughout 2021, food prices were beyond the reach of average citizens particularly those in urban areas.

5. Government of Zimbabwe, GoZ 2012. The Food and Nutrition Security Policy for Zimbabwe: Promoting Food and Nutrition Security in Zimbabwe in the Context of Economic Growth and Development. Food and Nutrition Council, Harare.

6. UN. 2015. Transforming Our World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UN, Washington D.C.

7. Food Security Information Network (FSIN). 2021 Global Report on Food Crises – 2021. World Food Programme, Washington, D.C.



PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS ANNUAL TARGETS

The NDS1 Priority Area 2 is subdivided into sections; Food Security and Nutrition Security. The former focuses on household caloric intake of all foods available to the family in the month (including purchases, agriculture, transfers, gifts and food aid) while the latter considers the nutritional value of food and the systemic factors that determine an individual's nutritional status. It is about an individual's access to essential nutrients, not just calories.

Table 2.1. Targets vs Achievements for 2021

NDS KRA Variables	Indicator	Baseline	NDS 2021 Target	2021 Performance
Food Security	Food self-sufficiency (Maize)	-	50%	51.2%
	Food self-sufficiency (Milk)	-	60%	52%
	Food insecurity	-	30%	40.9%
	Economic Agriculture	907,629MT (Maize)	1,800,000MT	2.7m MT
		94,685MT (Wheat)	120,000MT	300,000MT
		12,650MT (Sugar beans)	-	30,613MT
		152,515MT (Traditional grains)	300,000MT	347,968MT
		184,042MT (Tobacco)	175,000MT	200,245MT
		101,000MT (Seed cotton)	120,000MT	195,991MT
		47,088MT (Soya beans)	100,000MT	71,300MT
		87,479MT (Groundnuts)	100,000MT	208,864MT
		271,404MT (Banana)	280,000MT	298,072MT
		5,443,770 (Beef cattle)	6,000,000	5,478,648
79,900,000 Litres (Dairy)	82,000,000L	79,600,000L		

Table 2.2. Targets vs Achievements for 2021

NDS KRA Variables	Indicator	Baseline	NDS 2021 Target	2021 Performance
Food Nutrition	Horticulture production	US\$3.3 Billion	US\$3.4 Billion	n/d
	Nutrition status (proportion of families with)	Access to safe water	77%	35%
		Safe sanitation	70%	35%
		Stunted children	21%	29.4%

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Although the country is working towards meeting the NDS1 food and nutrition security KRAs, progress is hampered by multiple climatic and economic shocks being faced. These stresses include drought induced reduction of agricultural outputs, severe macroeconomic difficulties and the COVID-19 pandemic. These factors are reducing household food availability and impinging access to food and nutrition. The negative effects of the COVID-19 lockdown measures are reducing income levels by aggravating market instability.

Based on the conclusion, Zimbabwe needs robust and innovative strategies to achieve NDS1 food and nutrition security targets. Resilience building is a key strategy because of the multiplicity of challenges confronting food systems in country. This is crucial to achieve equitable access to healthy, nutritious food for all taking into account environmental sustainability.

In order to improve resilient food systems transformation, it is important to ensure that government ministries and departments lead the process by making sure that there is adequate budgetary support given to the institutions and actors in food value chain.



The role of food security and nutrition security is to achieve socio-economic development recognised in the country's Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP) and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."



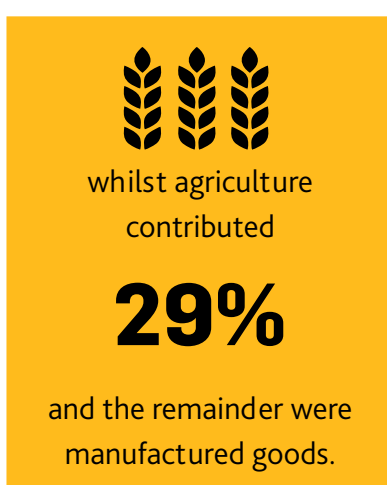
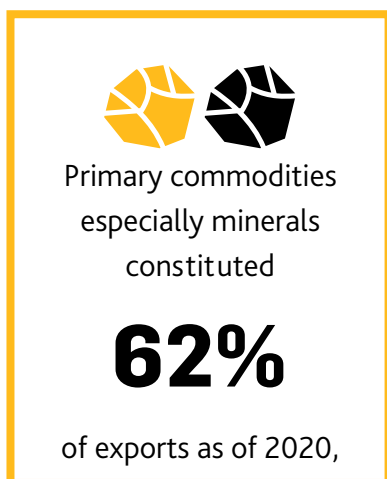
03

PRIORITY AREA

MOVING THE ECONOMY UP THE VALUE CHAIN AND STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

Under Priority Area Three (3), the NDS1 seeks to move the economy up the value chain and induce structural transformation. The NDS1 acknowledges the de-industrialization and regression of the industrial sector in Zimbabwe from the year 2000 and the ephemeral recovery during the GNU period hence the need to transform the economic structure through moving up a sizeable number of value chains, as well as domesticating the value chains. The COVID-19 disturbances also skewed demand towards the health sector and ICTs whilst education, tourism, transport, mining and manufacturing were heavily affected, hence the alteration in the composition of exports too.



Entering global value chains increases export ratios, foreign direct investment (FDI), and diversification of the economy, increasing the trade in services thereby scaling up growth and accelerating progression towards Vision 2030. Most high-income countries generate more domestic value added per worker in agriculture, industry, and services compared to middle or low-income economies. Moving up the value chain requires:

- technological advancement of local firms in the designing, production and marketing of high value products,
- a supportive policy environment and the engagement of various stakeholders such as business, science, government, research institutions and the education sector.

The ultimate is to achieve an inclusive and sustainable development through structural transformation introduced by the process of moving up the value chain.

In pursuit of the same, Zimbabwe is part of a number of continental and regional industrial initiatives such as the African Union's Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa and the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063). At the national level, Zimbabwe currently observes the Zimbabwe National Industrial Development Policy (ZNIDP) (2019-2023) which is affixed to Vision 2030 and seeks to realize structural transformation towards industrialization to sustain growth and investment. The pronouncement of the NDS1 (2021-2025) as a successor to the Transitional Stabilization Policy (TSP) (2018-2020) defined an elevated commitment by government to industrialize and promote structural transformation through both moving up and domesticating the value chains. The NDS1 blue print set implementation targets as a way of provisioning for tracking and monitoring the policy.

The resultant job losses from de-industrialization, closure of companies, and relocation of firms to the capital or downsizing informed the need to promote structural transformation and value addition (MoFED 2020).⁸

The EPU and the WB (2011)⁹ advances that moving up the value chain entails shifting the productive activities of a country, towards the fabrication of goods and services of higher value added (structural transformation) by globally competitive entities operating in Zimbabwe.

8. Ministry of Finance and Economic Development 2020. National Development Strategy, January 2021 – December 2025. November 16 2020, Harare.
 9. EPU and the WB (2011). Moving up the value chain: A study of Malaysia's Solar and Medical Device Industries. EPU and the WB.

PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS ANNUAL TARGETS: MOVING UP THE VALUE CHAIN AND STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION

The major set-back in objectively tracking the progress made in value addition and structural transformation is the inaccessibility of granular data relating to specific NDS1 targets. This report benefits from publicly available information from ZimStats, media reports and other official sites in assessing the progress made in moving up the value chain and structural transformation. The official pronouncements made by

government on key value addition and beneficiation projects are key referral points for this report.

Table 3.1 summarizes the targets for Priority Area 3 and the progress made in implementation or achievements made on the same.

Table 3.1. Moving the Economy up the Value Chain and Structural Transformation – Targets vs Achievement for 2021

KRA Variables ¹⁰	Indicator	Baseline	NDS 2021 Target	2021 Performance
Value Addition	Manufacturing Sector			
	Manufacturing/GDP%	11.7%	12.1	18.43% ¹¹
	Manufactured exports (\$m)	727.9	839.9	Refer to fig 3.1
	Manufactured exports/ total exports (%)	16.2	16.9	-
	Capacity utilization	36.4%	50%	58% ¹²
	Manufacturing value added	Z\$14,978m	Z\$193,093m	Z\$213 Billion ¹³
	Share of manufacturing sector investment to total investment	84%	50%	
Mineral Beneficiation	Value of export earnings from beneficiated minerals (USD)	UD8.3 Billion	US\$8.9 Billion	n/d
	% Contribution to GDP	39	40.8	n/d
	Number of beneficiation plants	5	10	1 ¹⁴
	Value of investments in value addition	5	10	n/d
	Direct employment in mineral beneficiation	77 799	89 349	n/d
	Locally cut and polished diamond	0.5%	1%	Industrial

10. Key Result Area disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

11. <https://www.thezimbabweanmail.com/economic-analysis/zimbabwean-manufacturing-output-contributes-1843-to-gdp/>

12. Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries (CZI) estimate from industrial survey.

13. <https://www.thezimbabweanmail.com/economic-analysis/zimbabwean-manufacturing-output-contributes-1843-to-gdp/>

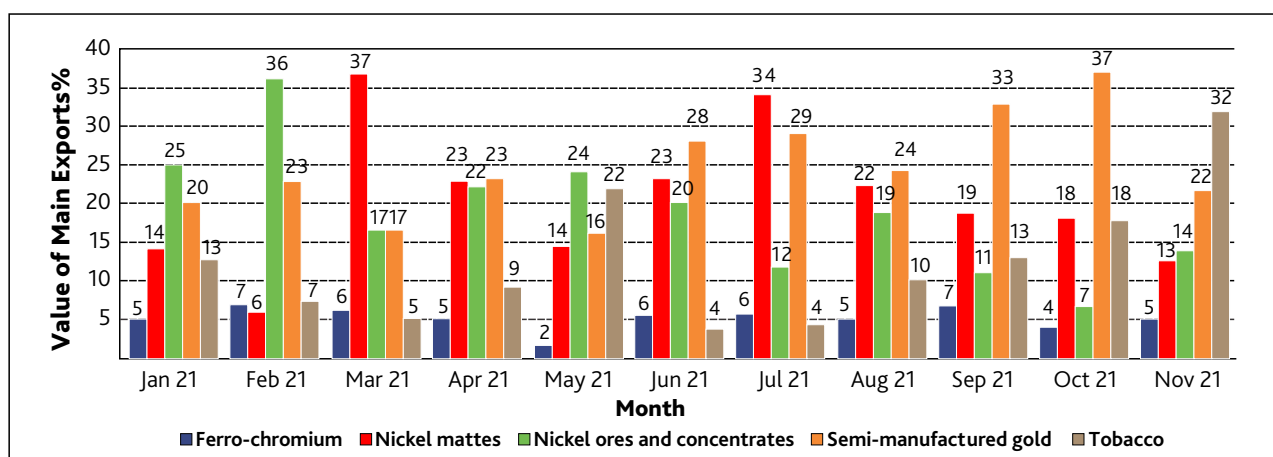
14. Unki Mine invests US\$48m to boost plant capacity. Available at: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202107190532.html>

				diamonds (cleaved,sawn or bruted)
	Level of completion in establishing Base Metal Refinery	0%	5%	0% (plans underway)
	Established chrome to ferrochrome processing facilities	6	7	n/d
Services	Value of exports in Goods and Services to GDP	UD\$4.5 Billion	US\$4.95 Billion	n/d
	Value of export earnings from services	US\$513 Million	US\$565 Million	n/d
Competitiveness	Global competitiveness index	127/140	120/140	127



Manufacturing/GDP surpassed a target of 12.1%, reaching 18.43% owing to expansion in capacity utilization from 2020 (47%) to 58% in 2021. This explains the Z\$213 billion manufacturing value added for 2021 against Z\$193 billion target for the year. Whereas ZimStats data does not clearly show value of manufactured goods, figure 3.1 provides a snippet of the performance of some of the partially processed exports. Except for Gold, nickel ore and concentrates and nickel mattes, other products' contribution to exports remained weak throughout the year.

Figure 3.1. Value of Main Exports by Harmonized System Product Codes (%) Jan-Nov 2021



Source: ZimStats December 2021

The number of new beneficiation plants stood at one (1) following Unki Mine's US48 million investment in a new plant whose completion was slated for September 2021. On the side; Zimplats, Mimosa and Unki intend to engage a consultant for the establishment of a metal base refinery by 2025 and a precious metal refinery by 2027 (Business Times, June 10 2021).¹⁵

Overall, the
Competitiveness Index
for Zimbabwe remains at

127

127 globally although
an updated index
is due.

In the meantime, partially-processed and raw platinum ore is being exported.¹⁶ Processed diamonds are mainly cleaved, sawn or bruted and statistics do not show the quantity of any processed diamonds – an indication of limited investment in the same.¹⁷

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The objective tracing of the level of implementation and achievements of NDS1 in 2021 was affected by unavailability of correctly disaggregated statistics.

Recommendation: It is expedient for ZimStats to construe its data calibration to the Key Result Area measures stated in the NDS 1 policy document for easy policy performance tracking.

- The economy managed to scale industrial capacity utilization recording 58% in 2021 thereby increasing the value of manufactured goods to the GDP owing to the ease in COVID-19 restrictions, productive efficiency, improved access to forex and improved agricultural output in the past season. Notable is that 38% of manufacturing firms expanded operations, upgraded their technology and had new investments in second quarter thereby expanding their installed capacities. Non-metal sector (construction and cement manufacturing) recorded the highest capacity utilization as Lafarge launched a US\$2.8 million Dry Mortar (DMO) project designed to scale production from 7000 tonnes to 100 000 tonnes per year.¹⁸ The least capacity utilization was recorded in the clothing and footwear sector

15. <https://businesstimes.co.zw/miners-engage-consultant-for-base-metal-refinery/>

16. <https://businesstimes.co.zw/miners-engage-consultant-for-base-metal-refinery/>

17. <https://www.sundaymail.co.zw/new-zimbabwe-eyes-new-diamond-cutting-and-polishing-plant/>

18. Lafarge expansion project on course. Available on: <https://www.chronicle.co.zw/lafarge-expansion-project-on-course/>

given the influx of cheap footwear and smuggled second hand clothing through the country's porous borders. Chemicals, petroleum products, wood, furniture sector were also below 50%.¹⁹

Recommendation: Policy should support the industrial sectors whose capacity utilization remains suppressed. By September of 2021, only 32% of budgeted funds earmarked for various beneficiation and value addition programmes were disbursed to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce – thereby stalling meaningful progress in the resuscitation of ZISCO Steel, the setting up of chrome to ferro-chrome plants and other related industrialization targets for 2021. Essentially, budget implementation should support value addition and beneficiation programmes if NDS1 targets are to be met.

- Key achievements in agro-processing include the commissioning of the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Plant in Mutoko and the Marula Processing and Value Addition plant in Rutenga.

Recommendation: The key lesson is that the private sector must take lead in the industrialization process and drive the value addition and beneficiation dream riding on proper policing.

Further Recommendations

Key infrastructure such as power, water and roads must be prioritized to support industrialization in the country.

- It is imperative for government to balance COVID-19 containment and the availing of resources in support of structural transformation especially upgrading essential infrastructure.
- Foreign currency shortages are a common phenomenon and it affects efforts by industry to retool and adequately finance growth. The adoption of an open foreign currency market is the respite for flawed auction market.
- The policy machinery must be consistent, reduce bureaucracy and incentivize the private sector to start up new factories in support of NDS1.

“

The objective tracing of the level of implementation and achievements of NDS1 in 2021 was affected by unavailability of correctly disaggregated statistics.”

19. <https://thestandard.newsday.co.zw/2021/10/03/zims-industry-capacity-utilization-rises/>



04

PRIORITY AREA

TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

INTRODUCTION

The NDS1 Priority Area Four (4) – Transport, Infrastructure and Utilities realizes that the success of any economy depends on its ability to prioritize its infrastructural developmental initiatives which subsequently attracts investors. As the gap towards the year 2030 is closing fast, efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) continue to be accelerated. Although there has been so much talk on working towards becoming a prosperous upper middle-income society by 2030 (Vision 2030), which coincides with achieving SDGs by the same year, this section assesses whether Zimbabwe is in the right pathway by focusing on the provision of basic infrastructural utilities that form part of the pillars of economic growth.

The section presents the infrastructure, social and economic linkages, the policies relating to infrastructure development and the actual performance against NDS1 infrastructure and utilities targets.

The tracking adopts a theoretical framework of infrastructure-led development. Proponents of this theory purport that infrastructure affects the production of commodities and health services and as a result of this interconnectedness the degree of infrastructure efficiency is strongly related to the degree of efficiency of public investment. Although the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda does not have any legal force, SDG11 seeks to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable by 2030. Cities are thus projected to invest in public infrastructure to provide services to local communities in a sustainable manner by 2030 (Masekesa, 2021).²⁰ The commitment of SDG11 to cities means that city authorities have a global duty as co-governors to contribute directly and indirectly to sustainable development and Zimbabwe is not spared out (ibid).

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS – TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

There is widespread concern over water insecurity in most towns and cities in Zimbabwe which include Chitungwiza, Bindura and some parts of Harare Metropolitan Province. Some households in places such as Mabvuku Tafara have gone for years without receiving water which is largely attributed to a dilapidated water piping system that has also resulted in leakages in the process of pumping water to different households.²¹ In February 2021 the government declared a state of national disaster for all roads in Zimbabwe through Statutory Instrument 47 of 2021, the Road Infrastructure Network. A declaration that attests to poor road network and an impediment to national development and growth. The banning of kombis in 2020 left the state-owned transport, Zimbabwe United Passenger Company (ZUPCO) with the sole mandate of transporting people country wide. This has subsequently resulted in the monopolization of the transport system with a negative impact as ZUPCO does not have the capacity to provide sufficient and reliable public transport for all.



Transport, Infrastructure and Utilities realizes that the success of any economy depends on its ability to prioritize its infrastructural developmental initiatives which subsequently attracts investors.

20. Masekesa, L.K. (2021). The Potential of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the Pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 11 in Zimbabwe. South Africa: North-west University.

21. Auditor General Report 2019.

Transport shortages in Zimbabwe have also resulted in the rise in muggings, robberies, murder, loss of valuables and rape cases. Cases of rape and robbery involving pirate taxis have been on the increase in the country. According to data from the Zimbabwe Republic Police, cases of rape and robbery between January to August 2021 have increased by 14% and 103%, respectively, compared to the same period in the previous year.



As of 22 December 2021,
ZUPCO had approximately

700

buses,

1000

Omnibuses and

30

deports across the
country for a population
of approximately

**15
Million**

Zimbabwe bolsters with 40% level of electricity services as stated by Sustainable Energy for All Africa Hub. The urban areas have a whopping access of 78% while the rural areas stand at 16%. Notably 63% of the households use firewood as the main source of energy, a detrimental effect to the environment and possible proliferation of desertification. The situation has been worsened by constant power cuts which have become regular in Zimbabwe thus forcing people to use firewood as an alternative source of energy. In mid-September 2021, Zimbabwe's power utility company-imposed load shedding schedules lasting for up to 12 hours. Efforts to boost electricity generation in the country have been hampered by corruption, particularly during the tender processing. It is of concern to note that these power cuts are set to further weaken an already fragile economy. The Zimbabwe Electricity Distribution Company (ZETDC); without revealing when the situation will be normalized; cited a

combination of limited generation capacity and repairs to power infrastructure as the cause of the major load shedding.

PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS ANNUAL TARGETS

Table 4.1 shows summarized performance of key indicators that fall under Priority Area 4 against their set annual targets as per the NDS1 (2021-2025). However, the lack of information remains a burden for research in Zimbabwe. This section includes variables that should be widely available in public domain.

Table 4.1. Targets vs Achievement in 2021

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ²²	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Transport, Infrastructure & Utilities	Infra-structure	Quality of overall infrastructure (WB).	115/137	112/137	n/d
		Logistics Performance Index (WB).	152/160	140/160	n/d
	Energy supply capacity	National fuel retail network capacity.	21	23	n/d
		Increased National Ethanol storage (litres).	11.3	11.3	11.3
		Fuel pipeline capacity (litres).	2.190	2.190	2.190
		Power transmission and distribution line constructed (KMs).	420	600	n/d
		New Capacity Installed (MW).	2317	2317	n/d
	Access to modern energy	Access to electricity.	40% (2020)	60%	41.3%
		Average end user tariff.	2.4	10.42	n/d
		Per capita electricity consumption.	501.7	713.3	n/d
	Water and sanitation	Percentage of population using an improved drinking source.	77%	79%	68%
	Roads & bridge infrastructure	Percentage of road network in good condition to meet SATCC standard.	5%	6%	3%
		Percentage of road network in good condition.	10%	12%	11%
	Road Transport Services	VID depots computerized (ELLT).	5	12	9
		Reduction in road UNOPS accidents and fatalities.	29000	27550	n/d
	Rail infrastructure	Track Quality Index (Proportion of track meet set standards).	57%	58%	47%
		Number of routes UNOPS (KMs).	2760Kms	2760kms	n/d
		Number of locomotives, wagons and coaches available.	32; 3568; 59 respectively	36; 3717; 81 respectively	No change
		Rolling Stock Export Fit Index/turnover	0.35	0.40	n/d

22. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
	Rail services	Freight cargo moved.	2.6m	4.5m	1.7m
		Intercity passenger volume moved.	0.337m	0.899m	0.231m
		Commuter passenger volume moved.	0.861m	2.7m	n/d
	Airport infrastructure	Passenger and cargo handling capacity.	5.5m; 40.2m	5.5m; 40.2m	5.5m; 40.2m
		Number of passengers.	0.5m	0.7m	n/d
		Cargo tonnage uplifted.	22.5m	23.6m	n/d

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In a nutshell, the state of Zimbabwe's infrastructure development is below the targets of achievement of Sustainable Development Goals as well as the NDS1 targets. Priority should be given to water, energy and transport as they are major pillars that affect not only economic growth but the general standard of living of Zimbabweans. The appalling statistics of poor service delivery are worrisome and need urgent attention to redress the situation. The following recommendations are therefore imperative:

- The government should increase the number of ZUPCO buses to at least 2000 buses and consider innovative financing of the same through Public-Private Partnerships to cater for transport shortages for intracity and intercity movements.
- The construction/refurbishment of roads must be prioritized given that the UNECA classified Zimbabwe amongst countries with the worst roads in the world.
- Water shortages should be a matter of emergency and the government should ensure the provision of alternative sources of water to guarantee water security in the event of failure by traditional sources. However, this should be accompanied by strict monitoring of ideas and water quality so as to safeguard human and environmental health.
- There is need to invest in green energy as an alternative to coal generated electricity.



Priority should be given to water, energy and transport as they are major pillars that affect not only economic growth but the general standard of living of Zimbabweans.”



05

PRIORITY AREA

DIGITAL ECONOMY

INTRODUCTION

The NDS 1 prioritizes the transformative process guided by the Digital Economy as one of the key strategic pillars to enable sustainable economic growth. The Digital Economy pillar is earmarked to be mainstreamed across all critical national development interventions. Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) are identified as key enablers of social and economic development in this age of digitalization. Digitalization is proving to have a significant impact on daily living, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic; the ways of doing business transactions have changed, communication and daily social habits have become strongly reliant on digital technology. The Digital economy is rapidly reshaping global economics, permeating virtually every sector changing the way people learn, work, trade, socialize, and access public and private services and information.

With these significant changes to the global economy, digital transformation presents massive opportunities for growth. As it stands, the global value of the digital technology sector is US\$ 11.5 trillion. However, countries like Zimbabwe are currently capturing a small fraction of this growth potential and need to strategically invest in the foundational elements of their digital economy to keep pace, and avoid being left behind (World Bank, 2021).²³

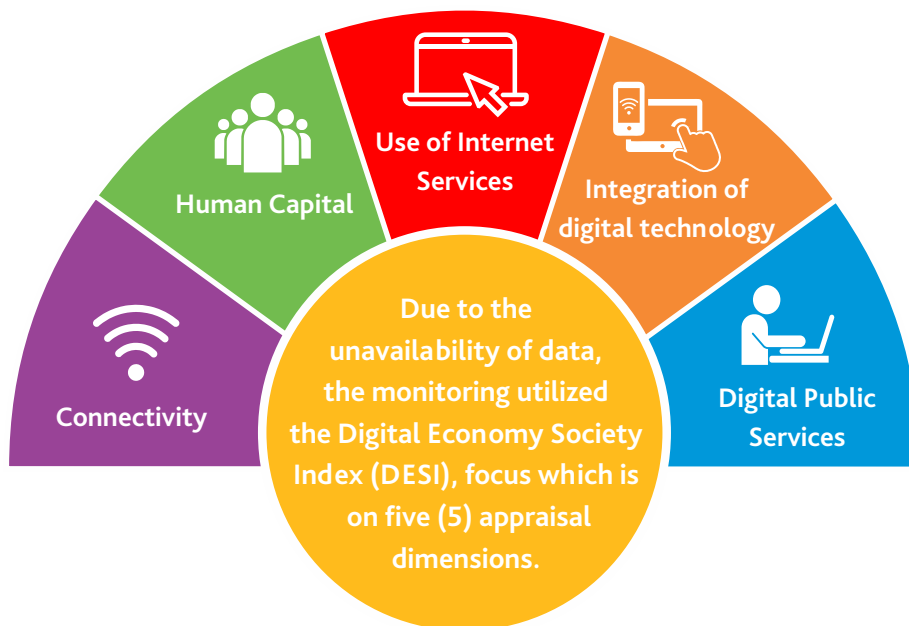


infrastructure development and digital skills capacity improvement. The digital economy sector in Zimbabwe is under the prerogative of the earlier mentioned ministry which is responsible for developing strategic policy and mainstreaming digital transformation efforts through application of appropriate regulatory mechanisms and innovations

At the launch of the NDS1, the Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services proclaimed a ZW\$8-billion-dollar investment to support digital

in the country. The launch of the NDS1 was coupled with pronouncements by the ministry to support the digital economy pillars through efforts to increase internet and mobile penetration rate, measures for electronic and smart government systems, investments in the requisite ICT infrastructure and Community Information Centers in some of the disadvantaged communities.

NDS1 2021 TARGETS VS ACTUAL PERFORMANCE – DIGITAL ECONOMY



23. World Bank, 2019. "Digital Skills". Washington DC: the World Bank. Unpublished paper

The DESI is linked to the NDS1 Digital Economy KRAs as presented in table 5.1.

Table 5.1. NDS1 Targets Vs Actual Performance - The Digital Economy (DESI Dimensions)

Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) Appraisal Dimension	NDS1 Key Result Area	Key Intervention Monitoring Indicator	2021 Performance
1. Connectivity	Internet Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Increasing Mobile Phones Penetration. ii. Widening broadband area coverage Increasing Information Communications and Internet Access Centers.	<p>There has been an increase in Mobile Phones Penetration both in rural and urban areas.</p> <p>Broadband area coverage area has also been widened.</p> <p>The government has also increased Information Communications and Internet Access Centers.</p>
2. Human Capital	ICT Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Improving the digital literacy skills. 	<p>The introduction of ICT in primary and secondary schools has also culminated in the improvement of digital literacy skills among the youths and elders due to the transmutation of skills.</p> <p>However, rural school and some in the urban area are still encountering challenges with respect to ICT infrastructure.</p>
3. Use of Internet Services	ICT Based public service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Improving online government services to citizens. ii. Increasing number of Smart Solutions implemented by government Increased mobile usage of internet-based services.	<p>There is a positive improvement of Government to Citizen (G2C) as well as Government to Business (G2B). A clear indication towards effective and mature e-government. Increasing number of Smart Solutions implemented by government. Government departments and state enterprises all have websites and service interactive platforms that allows for citizens to be attended to online.</p>

<p>4. Integration of Digital Technology</p>	<p>Investment in ICTs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Improving ICT induced Employment creation. ii. Percentage increase of ICT contribution to GDP. iii. Percentage Compliance to policies and regulations. iv. Improving ICT based innovations. 	<p>The government through TelOne has rolled out broadband and convergence program across the country. The government is still failing to finish up the TV digitalization programs. The government has also been silent about the National Geospatial and Space Agency.</p>
<p>5. Digital Public Services</p>	<p>Electronic based internal government operations and administration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Improving the e-Government Interoperability Framework. ii. Improving the Whole-of Govt (WoG) Management Information System components. 	<p>The government has made positive strides in improving interoperability among mobile network providers. It is now possible to buy Netone airtime using Ecocash. However, the interoperability is still in its infancy stage, as it must move towards sending money from One wallet to Ecocash.</p> <p>There is also no interoperability among departments and ministry.</p>

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The Priority Area on Digital Economy performed fairly well although there is limited access to state data and interoperability. As per the DESI dimensions, the NDS1 is on the right track with respect to digital economy. Zimbabwe has competitive human capital within the digital space although some urban and rural schools still have infrastructure backlog thereby breeding educational inequality. Internet access improved across the country due to the successful roll out of the convergence and broadband program. However, investments in ICT have been low and this has hindered the TV digitalization project as well as the establishment of the National Geospatial and Space Agency. Electronic based internal government operations and administration has also not been full achieved as there is still need to perfect interoperability among government departments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The ministries of Education and Information and Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services must see to it that all rural and urban schools have adequate infrastructure that supports ICT.

- The Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services must ensure that there is interoperability among various ministries and departments.
- To spur internet usage across the divide, government must subsidize data as its price has gone beyond the reach of many.
- The importation of ICT gadgets must be duty-free to encourage wide usage and adoption of ICTs.
- The ongoing development of the ICT Policy must prioritize the training of ICT personnel for onward cascading of the skills to all and sundry.



The Digital economy is rapidly reshaping global economics, permeating virtually every sector changing the way people learn, work, trade, socialize, and access public and private services and information.”



06

PRIORITY AREA

HOUSING DELIVERY

INTRODUCTION

Housing is a fundamental human right and it is an integral part of the right to life since it makes life comfortable by providing a key basic need-shelter. The NDS 1 recognizes the importance of housing as an essential service in attaining vision 2030. The right to decent housing has its roots in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR). Nevertheless, Zimbabweans have been encountering housing crisis owing to a myriad of complex and connected dynamics such as legal, regulatory and land barons. The 2005 Operation Murambatsvina left thousands of Zimbabweans homeless following government's demolition of illegal structures. Since then, the majority of citizens never recovered and the demand for land to construct houses has led to the mushrooming of land barons who fleece home seekers.

The housing sector is governed by a myriad of frameworks which include but are not limited to the following:

- the National Constitution,
- the Zimbabwe National Human Settlements Policy of 2019,
- the Devolution and Decentralization Policy,
- Rural District Councils Act (Chapter 29:13),
- Urban Councils Act (Chapter 29:15),
- Regional Town and Country Planning Act (Chapter 29:13)
- and the Provincial Councils and Administration Act (Chapter 29:11).

These local frameworks are also reinforced by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as well as Africa Agenda 2063. The NDS1 is another blue print that prioritizes the provision of cost-effective housing to address the housing challenge. An examination of how the housing ambition faired in 2021 is covered hereunder.

NDS1 TARGETS VS ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Table 6.1 summarizes the performance of the housing delivery priority area in 2021 against set targets.

Table 6.1. NDS1 2021 Targets vs Actual Performance – Housing Delivery

KRA Variables ²⁴	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Social (Urban and Rural Housing)	Number of housing units delivered	49 870 (2019)	2000	No disaggregated data on all the variables under Social (Urban and Rural Housing). However, the 2022 National Budget National Housing Fund (revolving fund) was established to avail affordable housing loans to home seekers. However, the facility is underfunded against high demand. As a result, some of the planned housing projects have been stalled including Waneka flats, Senondo flats, Shamrock flats, Florida flats, Dombotombo Flats, Bindura flats, Mufakose flats, Seke flats, Tynwald flats and Mabelreign flats.
	Urban housing renewal projects implemented	N/A	2	
	Number of integrated housing projects	0	460	

24. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

Land for housing delivery	Land hectarage acquired for housing.	N/A	1000	n/d. However, in the government availed 13 000 hectares of land for the New City in Mt Hampden. Survey findings also shows that urban local authorities across the country are failing to get government approval of their land application.
	Number of new villagized and planned rural settlements established.	N/A	8	
	Residential and ancillary stands created on approved layout plans.	-	20800	
Access to basic services	Percentage households with access to safe drinking water (Urban/ Rural).	77% & 51% respectively	79% & 53% respectively	n/d. Nevertheless, studies carried out by various institutions indicated that Zimbabwe has water crisis with urban local authorities failing to provide portable clean water. ²⁵
	Percentage households with access to proper sanitation/ sewer system (Urban/ Rural).	43% & 34% respectively	45% & 35% respectively	
Access to social amenities in urban and rural areas	Percentage population with access to social amenities.	62%	63%	n/d However, it has become a public secret that Zimbabwe has an infrastructural backlog with respect to social amenities. Local Authorities who are custodians of social amenities are failing to provide such services.
Regularization of informal settlement	Percentage households with access to basic services.	0%	2%	-

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Housing delivery is still wanting as it has failed to satisfy all the targeted housing variables. Rather than increasing housing construction projects, the government has stalled various programs which include the construction of Waneka flats, Senondo flats, Shamrock flats, Florida flats, Dombotombo Flats, Bindura flats, Mufakose flats, Seke flats, Tynwald flats and Mabelreign flats. Ironically, in 2020, the

25. The Water Crisis Fact Sheet No. 2, 2019 - Zimbabwe | ReliefWeb
 Zimbabwe Struggles to Provide Clean Water During Pandemic - The Zimbabwean
 'We are drinking sewage water': Zimbabwe shortages threaten thousands | Access to water | The Guardian



70%

of the Zimbabwean urban local authorities are failing to provide portable water.

government only utilized 17% of the funds allocated to National Housing and Amenities while the majority of Zimbabweans do not have decent accommodation. Water and sanitation remain problematic with the central government and local authorities failing to provide adequate clean and safe water. Approximately 70% of the Zimbabwean urban local authorities are failing to provide portable water. At the same time there is a huge infrastructure backlog in social amenities. A testament to NDS1 implementation inefficacy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ministries of Finance and Local Government should prioritize National Housing Fund (revolving fund) by allocating adequate resources as it is essential in addressing the housing challenges. The revolving fund will play a critical role in establishing affordable housing loans to home seekers. Reinvesting in the National Housing Fund will culminate in the resuscitation of Waneka flats, Senondo flats, Shamrock flats, Florida flats, Dombotombo Flats, Bindura flats, Mufakose flats, Seke flats, Tynwald flats and Mabelreign flats.

- The central government through the Ministry of Local Government must ensure that local authorities' request for land extension is approved timely. This will help the local authority ease housing demand within its jurisdiction.
- The government should prioritize both housing and access to portable, safe running water as the provision of housing without availing running water exposes families and society to cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, typhoid and other similar diseases.
- Local authorities should avail low-cost housing for the low-income earners.
- Government should give the private sector a bigger role in the provision of housing facilities whilst adhering to low-cost housing models so as not to outprice low-income earners.



The right to decent housing has its roots in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR)."



07

PRIORITY AREA

HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

INTRODUCTION

Human capital refers to the economic value of skills, knowledge, and experience that a person or a group of people possesses. Because of increasing globalization, technological changes, and economic liberalization, governments are forced to prioritize the development of human skills as a strategy to amass competitive advantage.

Accordingly, governments should promote innovation as it is through innovation that new ideas, methods, and processes of production and accelerated economic growth can be realized.²⁶ As such, human capital development and innovation are critical in complementing other public investments.

26. Gruzina, Y., Firsova, I., and Strielkowski, W. (2021). "Dynamics of Human Capital Development in Economic Development Cycles," *Economies*, MDPI, vol. 9(2), pages 1-18.

The world has evolved thanks to the Fourth Industrial Revolution popularly known as the digital revolution. The revolution has challenged every aspect of human life from the way people or organizations interact with others, the way people work, travel and or transact. The outbreak of COVID-19 has accelerated the rate of technology advancement and technology adoption as we are witnessing increased virtual conferencing, internet banking, teleworking and e-commerce among other initiatives. In the workplace, manual work is being replaced by automation. The nature of skills required has changed as companies are now looking for people with skills suiting the new world.²⁷ For instance, the knowledge of the internet has become a prerequisite for one to get employment across many sectors. While many fear that technological innovation will lead to massive job losses, others equally argue that it is a catalyst for job growth as it is creating new roles, new types of companies/organizations and new sectors of the economy.

With the foregoing, the government must ensure that it invests more in human capital development. However, the cost of education in Zimbabwe has increased substantially in 2021 driven by persistent macroeconomic volatilities – crowding out the majority of people especially the vulnerable groups living in rural areas. Although most of the time official statistics show good Gross and Net enrolments in primary schools, the case differs significantly if viewed with a comparative eye, urban primary versus its rural counterpart. Also, the quality of education between the two has been widening due to a tightening macroeconomic environment now

being exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The greater part of 2020 and 2021 had students learning through the utilization of online platforms as compared to physical learning. This has caused greater harm to rural areas that do not have access to electricity and due to the erratic nature of income inflows, the majority of them cannot afford broadband data whose price has ballooned in line with general inflation trends. The underperforming economy is affecting the tertiary education sector which is the apex of the human capital development ladder.

A 2020 report by the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development in conjunction with the World Bank revealed that at

8.5%

Zimbabwe's tertiary enrolment rate is yet to match the level of regional leaders.

It is the responsibility of the government to promote inclusive human capital development to ensure that all people including less privileged and underserved groups like orphans, youth, and people with disabilities (PWD) move together with the evolving world. This will give them a fair shot and be able to compete in the capitalist world of today. Nevertheless, the government has failed to guarantee effective human capital development.

27. Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development and World Bank: Revitalizing Zimbabwe's Tertiary Education Sector to Support a Robust Economic Recovery (September 2020).

PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS NDS1 ANNUAL TARGETS

Even though there is limited data on key indicators for human capital development for 2021, it is almost impossible that this area has developed significantly given the deterioration witnessed since 2019 due to the economic meltdown buttressed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2019 Webometrics Top 100 Universities in SSA rankings showed that Zimbabwean institutions compare poorly to other universities in the region. The 2018 National Critical Skills Audit revealed that there exist significant gaps between the supply and demand for critical skills in many sectors. Grade 7 pass rate shows a declining trend from 52.87% in 2018 to 46.9% in 2019 and a further decline to 37.11% in 2020.

Tertiary GER fell to 8.876% in 2017 driven by rising tuition fees which have become out of reach for many households. Although Zimbabwe has one of the highest levels of quantitative research output in Sub-Saharan Africa, a large volume of these scholarly publications is deemed of low quality evidenced by a lower H-Index score than most of its regional counterparts. The country also underperforms on measures of innovation and technology transfers, that is, the frequency of international research collaborations is lower than the regional average. The Education Report for 2021 is yet to be published, a major constraint faced in tracking this Priority Area. However, it is expected that the report will be published in the first quarter of 2022 and shall be incorporated in the 2022 First Quarter CISOMM Report.

Table 7.1. Target vs Achievement in 2021 – Human Capital Development and Innovation

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ²⁸	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Innovation & Knowledge Driven Economy	Access to qualify, equitable and inclusive education	Junior School NER	81.2%	82%	n/d
		Secondary School (GER)	58.2%	59%	n/d
		Literacy rate	92.4%	92.5%	86.5%
		Public Satisfaction Index	60%	70%	n/d
		Trade Tests Graduates	4843	4850	n/d
		Grade 7, 'O' Level & 'A' Level pass rate	49.9%,31.6% & 83.1% respectively	52%, 32% & 85% respectively	n/d
	Availability of specialist skills for industry, commerce and public sector	Skills deficit/surplus	38%	39%	n/d
		Skilled experts available	38%	40%	n/d
		University rankings	62/200	60/200	71/200
		Courses configured to university 5.0	34	36	n/d

28. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

	Research & Innovation Throughput	Number of goods and services derived from local research and technological advancement	23	28	n/d
		Number of predictive models developed for civil protection (verified by the ICT Development Index)	1	2	0
		Number of Hi-Tech Industries established	1	1	0



Human capital refers to the economic value of skills, knowledge, and experience that a person or a group of people possesses.

Because of increasing globalization, technological changes, and economic liberalization, governments are forced to prioritize the development of human skills as a strategy to amass competitive advantage.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the poor showing and missing of 2021 targets, the following measures can be considered to improve human capital development and innovation:

- **Increased curriculum support:**

The government has upgraded the primary and secondary education system in line with global trends but there is little funding for the new curriculum. There is a need to mobilize enough resources to ensure that under served groups especially the rural areas are not left behind. This involves the provision of textbooks, reducing the teacher-student ratio as well as the learner-classroom ratio.

- **Build research capacity:**

In the last 2 decades, funding for research and development has been declining as the government struggles to remunerate teaching staff. As such, many have migrated to other countries. It is high time the government creates and ring-fences resources for a Public Research Fund to build the capacity of research in Zimbabwe. While the introduction of Innovation Hubs as innovation incubators at public universities is commendable, the government should provide adequate funding.

- **Modernization of public institutions:**

The poor performance of local universities is partly due to existing rigid and costly administration. The universities are managed by large Councils which are being paid lucrative allowances. As such, these institutions must be reformed to ensure that they have efficient and effective administrative systems in place as well as financial autonomy.

- **Address gender disparity:**

To bring gender equality in education, the government should ensure that the 'girl child' receives equal opportunity to further her education. This should also be the case for teaching staff from ECD to tertiary education. Gender parity in teaching will ultimately bring gender parity in enrolment as it will inspire young girls and women to believe in themselves.

- **Address infrastructure deficit:**

Almost all public learning institutions in Zimbabwe are facing huge infrastructure gaps thereby inhibiting education delivery. In addition, some are lacking electricity and internet access, the very things which are key in the 21st-century education system which is characterized by increased globalization. For the country to remain competitive, these deficits must be reduced.

“

The world has evolved thanks to the Fourth Industrial Revolution popularly known as the digital revolution.”



08

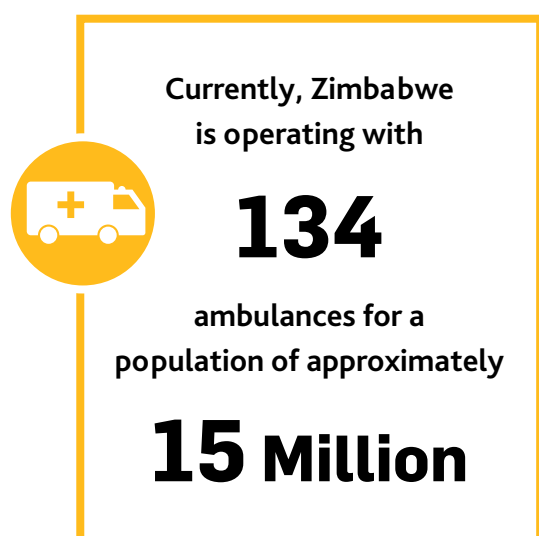
PRIORITY AREA

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Good health is essential to sustainable development and Zimbabwe has made significant progress in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) underpinned by the NDS1 and the country's Vision 2030 which mainstreams the Global 2030 Agenda to facilitate joint implementation for improved health outcomes. The government of Zimbabwe through various policies and programmes is working to achieve universal health coverage through sustained investment in public health infrastructure, equipment, capacitation of human resources for health, procurement and distribution of medicines and sundries as well as development, review of health related legal and policy frameworks. Health is a fundamental human right according to the Zimbabwean Constitution, hence the overall outcome of the health sector during the NDS1 Period (2021-2025) is to improve the quality of life, and increase the life expectancy at birth from the current 61 years to 65 years.

Nevertheless, the health sector continues to face a myriad of human resources challenges related to Human Resources for Health (HRH) and thereby requiring a sustainable long-term solution rather than an ad hoc and piece-meal fix. Since 2019, the country witnessed one of the longest strikes by health personnel over poor working conditions, which nearly crippled the health sector. At the same time, the cost of healthcare continues to increase beyond the means of most citizens, making the SDG target of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030 a distant ambition. The shortage of medicines and equipment in public hospitals and maternity clinics has become the order of the day.



Although, Zimbabwe recorded an increase in the national budget allocation for health in 2021 from below 10% to 12,7%, and 14.9% for 2022, the health system continues to deteriorate. Maternal health, reproductive health and violence against women are some of the health issues that are underfunded and neglected despite the allocations to the health sector.

What is worrisome is that the Health Ministry only received 46% of its 2021 budget allocations as of September 2021 – pointing to underfinancing an already insufficient budget. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that Zimbabwe lost 2000 health professionals in 2021, doubling the number of health workers who left the profession in 2020. This happens at the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic which demands increased number of healthcare workers across the globe (Herald 16 December 2021).²⁹

The health sector is governed by a plethora of legal frameworks which include but not limited to:

- the National Health Strategy 2021-2025 (NHS) (being crafted);
- Zimbabwe School Health Policy (ZSHP);
- the Free User-Fee Policy for pregnant women, children under 5 years and also adults aged 65 years and above;
- the HIV Prevention Revitalization Roadmap; the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) Strategy;
- the Zimbabwe Community Health Strategy (2021–2024);
- the Zimbabwe National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan (ZNASP IV) 2021–2025;
- the National Action Plan for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (NAP for OVC);
- the Mental Health Policy and
- the National Health Policy.

The Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC) is in the process of developing the National Health Strategy 2021-2025 which outlines the roadmap towards turning around and restoring stability in the country's health system.

29. <https://www.herald.co.zw/health-sector-loses-2-000-workers-in-2021/>

Guided by the NDS1, some of the strategic focus areas of the National Health Strategy include:



Table 8.1. Health Sector Performance vs NDS1 Targets

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ³⁰	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Public Health and Well-being	Quality of life	Life expectancy at birth (disaggregated)	61 Years	61.5 Years	61.63 Years
		Maternal Mortality Ratio (deaths per 100 000)	425	388	According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey of 2020, Zimbabwe has a maternal mortality ration of 462 deaths per 100,000 live births, and a neonatal mortality rate of 32 deaths per 1000 live births.
		Under 5 Mortality	61	57	
		Overall Vacancy rate	15%	14.1%	No Data. However, towards the end of 2021 the health sector lost approximately 2200 workers. ³¹ This number excludes those who left when nurses and doctors were fired for taking industrial action.

30. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

31. 2 200 Nurses, Doctors Left Zimbabwe For Greener Pastures In 2021 - NewZimbabwe.com

Quality of life	Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Mortality Rate (Cervical Cancers)	>15%	13.5%	No data. However, there are huge declines in resources for Communicable Diseases (CDs) and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in the 2021 health budget. The NCDs budget was severely cut from 32% of total PHP budget in 2020 to only 3% in 2021 (or 1.9% of total health budget in 2020 to 0.3% in 2021).
	% of availability of selected tracer medicines Vital, Essential and Necessary (VEN)	51%	55%	33%
	Public Health Expenditure Per Capita	US\$30.29	US\$35	US\$25
	% Availability of functional equipment	40%	44%	39%
	Sanitation Coverage	67%	69%	No Data
	Portable Water Supply Coverage	77%	79%	No Data, however many local authorities across the country are struggling to provide clean and safe water. Some have gone in excess of 10 years without running water.
	Service availability index	42%	50%	No Data. However, the 2020 Auditor General Special Audit Report on COVID-19 noted that Zimbabwean health sector was wanting, coupled with dilapidating infrastructure. The health sector had 134 functional ambulances. ³²
Client Satisfaction index	75%	76%	No Data. Nonetheless, relying on the current health sector status as prescribed by the Auditor-General Report it is with no doubt that citizens are not satisfied with the health sector.	

32. Only 134 Ambulances Functioning Countrywide - HealthTimes

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The 2021 targets for health and well-being were missed except for life expectancy which is at 61.63 years, slightly above the prescribed target 61.5 years. However, it is ironic that life expectancy met the 2021 NDS1 target while the other key indicators missed their respective targets. The unavailability of data was circumvented by using the Auditor General (OAG) Report on Special Audits on COVID-19 funds to determine service availability index and client satisfaction index. According to the OAG Report on Special Audits on COVID-19 funds the health sector has infrastructural gaps coupled with dilapidating equipment making it less effective. The health sector has only 134 functional ambulances for a population of approximately 15 million people thus, one ambulance serves approximately 112 000 people. To this end, it is impossible to state that service availability index and client satisfaction index was great.

Whereas data on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) was not available, there were huge declines in resources for Communicable Diseases (CDs) and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in the 2021 health budget. The NCDs budget was severely cut from 32% of total PHP budget in 2020 to only 3% in 2021 (or 1.9% of total health budget in 2020 to 0.3% in 2020). The decline in budgetary allocation is tantamount to a decline in the effectiveness of handling NCDs as financial capacity plays a critical role in attaining NCD optimum management. Functional equipment was rated 39% while, public health expenditure per capita was at US\$ 25 all which failed to reach the prescribed targets. The failure to attain health targets implies that government ought to do more in 2022 if NDS1 health targets are to be met by 2025.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The NDS1 health and well-being targets for 2021 were grossly missed except for that for life expectancy.

- Only 39% of the existing technical equipment is functional as confirmed by the OAG Report on Special Audits on COVID-19 funds.
Recommendation: The government should prioritize the health sector by investing in modern and advanced health technology.
- The government reduced expenditure on NCDs, a move that undermines intervention capacity and NCDs optimum management.
Recommendation: The government should increase fiscal support towards the management of NDCs.
- In 2021, the health sector lost approximately 2200 workers.³³ This number excludes those who left when nurses and doctors were fired for taking industrial action in 2019.
Recommendation: The government should rejuvenate its strategic human resource management so as to create a conducive environment for career development and growth through talent retention and competitive remuneration.

33. 2 200 Nurses, Doctors Left Zimbabwe For Greener Pastures In 2021 - NewZimbabwe.com



09

PRIORITY AREA

IMAGE BUILDING, ENGAGEMENT AND RE-ENGAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The emergence of the new millennium ushered in a new paradigm shift in Zimbabwean international relations discourse. The period was characterised by the Land Reform Programme (LRP) which was meant to correct the inherited colonial imbalances in land ownership according to the government. Although the LRP was popular among some clusters of the society, it received international condemnation as it was viewed as a violation of property and human rights. This led to the imposition of sanctions on Zimbabwe by Western nations particularly Britain and USA as they had larger numbers of the affected farmers. Since then, Zimbabwe's relations with the West have waned with the Robert Mugabe administration adopting the Look East Policy.

The isolation of Zimbabwe in the international community is detrimental to the growth and development agenda of the country. To this end, Zimbabwe intends to intensify its image building and re-engagement process to thaw relations with the West, renegotiate debt terms and open up new credit lines. Nonetheless, the re-engagement calls for reforms by the government of Zimbabwe before the lifting of sanctions. Thus, Western countries encourage the government to uphold free and fair elections, rule of law, property rights, compensation of white farmers, implement security sector reforms, improve the Ease of Doing Business to mention but a few.

The Second Republic made a commitment to make all necessary transformations hence the establishment of the Transitional Stabilisation Policy (TSP) (2018-2020) as the foundation upon which the government's commitment to re-engage is fastened. The TSP laid the foundation of the NDS1 (2020-2025) which was to take over the image building and re-engagement drive. The NDS1 has been in operation since January 2021 yet no progress report on engagement and re-engagement has been published as provisioned for in the blue print. This report summarizes the progress made in image building, engagement and re-engagement.

Table 9.1. The NDS1 Performance in Image Building, Removal of Sanction and Re-engagement

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ³⁴	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Image building, International Engagement and Re-engagement	Image Building	Good Country Index	100/153	98/153	111
		Country Brand Ranking	120/189	116/189	To be updated
		Global Travel and Tourism			
		Competitiveness Ranking	114/140	113/140	127
		Global Happiness index	146/191	136/191	148

- Zimbabwe seeks to boost and reignite her image through scoring better in Good Country Index which was at 100 out of 153 in 2019 with a target of being number 98 out of 153 in 2021. However, Zimbabwe's efforts are not sufficient to bring about transmutation in her image as she failed to secure the 98th position. She actually, performed worse by ranking 111 in 2021.
- On competitiveness ranking, Zimbabwe failed to meet the NDS1 target of attaining rank 114 out of 140. Zimbabwe's 2021 ranking was 127.
- This was further aggravated by the worsening Global Happiness Index in which the 2021 target was rank to 136 out of 191. Nevertheless, Zimbabwe regressed to the 148th position.

34. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

- The failure by Zimbabwe to attain and build good image in the international community is largely due to her image diplomacy approach which is elite-oriented (hiring lobbyist organisations). The approach is not based on transforming Zimbabwe to improve ratings such as: good country index, country brand ranking, global travel and tourism, competitiveness ranking and global happiness index but rather in trying to change the perception of the international community that there is transmutation taking place while nothing has changed.

Table 9.2. The NDS1 Performance in Image Building, Removal of Sanction and Re-engagement

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ³⁵	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Image building, International Engagement and Re-engagement	International engagement & re-engagement	Country Risk Index	Grade CCC High Rick	Grade CC Medium Rick	Grade E. The highest-risk political and economic situation
		Removal of Sanctions	30%	100%	0
		Competitiveness Ranking	114/140	113/140	127

- The government failed to improve in international engagement and re-engagement as proven by the country risk index which has gone high. The baseline target was grade CCC which is high risk while the targeted grade was CC which is medium risk yet Zimbabwe attained grade E which is the highest-risk.
- On sanction removal, no sanctions have been removed, with the Biden administration renewing sanctions on Zimbabwe in 2021 a clear testimony that the government has not made much effort with respect to the sanction removal process. According to the USA President, Zimbabwe failed significantly to initiate a re-engagement process as there is explicitly *“absence of progress on most fundamental reforms needed to ensure the rule of law, democratic governance and the protection of human rights”*.³⁶
- On competitive ranking the baseline target was 114 while the 2021 target was 113. However, in all cases Zimbabwe failed to satisfy the NDS1 competitive ranking target by scoring 127.

35. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

36. 'USs Biden extends sanctions on Zimbabwe - Power FM

RECOMMENDATIONS

Zimbabwe's image building and re-engagement process continues to be off the rail as presented earlier. Therefore, if re-engagement is to be fruitful the government must ensure that the following measures are adopted.

- Zimbabwe must implement political and security sector reforms.
- Rather than focus on hiring lobbyist companies, the government should channel those resources towards public service delivery, a move that is likely increase Zimbabwe's happiness index as citizens are responsible for answering survey questions.
- The servicing of debt with international creditor is vital in redeeming the country's credit-worthiness and ability to borrow in the future.
- If the government of Zimbabwe is to improve on good country index, it must uphold the rule of law, rejuvenate public service delivery including social amenities as they also contribute in image building.



Zimbabwe intends to intensify its image building and re-engagement process to thaw relations with the West, renegotiate debt terms and open up new credit lines.”



10

PRIORITY AREA

DEVOLUTION AND DECENTRALIZATION

INTRODUCTION

Devolution and decentralization as a priority area under NDS1 seeks to diffuse substantial governmental powers, authority, responsibilities and resources to local units. This allows residents under local constituency and jurisdiction to exercise a measure of autonomy and discretion in their participation in making decisions that directly affect them. It also makes the government more accessible as a way of responsive, accountable and participatory governance over local development agendas. Devolution and Decentralization are tools for the attainment of improved service delivery, empowerment and the emancipation of societies in local authorities across Zimbabwe. The subsequent launch of the Devolution and Decentralization Policy is largely viewed as commitment by the Government of Zimbabwe to implement devolution, as enshrined in the Constitution and in Vision 2030.

Both the Constitution and Vision 2030 framework oblige the Central Government to devolve more powers and functions to sub-national tiers of government (Moyo & Ncube, 2014).³⁷

The framework for devolution is enshrined in section 264 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe and other subsidiary legislation such:

- the Urban Council Act (Chapter 29:15),
- Rural Councils Act (Chapter 29:13),
- Regional and Town and Country Planning Act (Chapter 29:12),
- Rural Councils and Administration Act (Chapter 29:11) which need to be reviewed and amended to align with the Constitution.

The Zimbabwean Constitution articulates that devolution should receive financing through the intergovernmental fiscal transfer (IGFT) target of at least 5% of national revenue in any financial year as stipulated in section 301(3). Local governments receive their allocations yearly to undertake local developments.

The state-owned media repeatedly applauds devolution and decentralization achievements

especially improved service delivery and the upgrading of infrastructure by restoring key infrastructure such as roads, water, clinics and schools – thereby transforming livelihoods for the better.³⁸ One case in point is Matebeleland South province that has significantly benefited from devolution funds with respect to mining, farming, tourism, energy, and irrigation development.³⁹ However, the concern is on whether all provinces are progressing uniformly as enshrined in the NDS1 blueprint. This report attempts to provide a simulation of the progress, challenges and proffer feasible policy direction with respect to Devolution and Decentralization.

DEVOLUTION AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS

Amidst data challenges on projects funded by devolution funds, this section provides details of projects whose information is readily available. An update of the progress made under this priority area shall be provided in the CISOMM Report for the first quarter of 2022. Table 10.1 presents the NDS1 devolution and decentralization targets against the real achievements for 2021.

Table 10.1. Devolution and Decentralization – Targets Vs Achievement for 2021

KRA Variables ⁴⁰	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Funding of devolution agenda	% Allocation from the National Budget	5%	At least 5%	• ZWL 19.5 billion (4.6% of the total budget)

37. Moyo, P. and Ncube, C. 2014, Devolution of Power in Zimbabwe's new constitutional order: Opportunities and potential constraints, Law Democracy & Development, 18: 289-304

38. The Herald 17 September 2021, available at <https://www.herald.co.zw/devolution-transforms-livelihoods-in-mash-east/>

39. The Chronicle 6 March 2021, available at: <https://www.chronicle.co.zw/2-3-billion-for-matland-south-devolution-projects/>

40. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

Administrative Decentralization	Number of services decentralized to provinces	-	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Court decentralized to Mutare and Chinhoyi. • E-passports.⁴¹ • Plans to automate ID application .
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FUNDING OF DEVOLUTION AND DECENTRALIZATION AGENDA

The ZWL19.5 billion allocated to devolution and decentralization is not only short of the 5% of the national budget but only 32% of ZWL19.5 billion was disbursed to provincial councils and local authorities by the end of September 2021 (see figure 10.1). This stalled projects undertaken by local authorities as slightly above ZWL 13 billion remained outstanding as at the end of September 2021. The ZWL19.5 billion being meagre in an inflationary environment could not meaningfully support capital intensive projects such as road construction and refurbishment of water processing plants. Despite the poor budget implementation, some devolution projects have not only provided employment to locals but improved service delivery with respect to health, water, sewer, and various infrastructures across the country (see table 10.2).



Devolution improved service delivery with respect to health, water, sewer, and various infrastructures across the country.”

Table 10.2. Some devolution projects implemented in 2021

Devolution Project	Place
Clinic construction	Gandavaroyi, Magogi, Mupata, Matopo RDC, Binga, Chipinge RDC
Solar-powered boreholes	Makonde RDC
Motorised grader for road construction	Makonde RDC
Dam construction	Dande, Thuli-Manyange Dam
Rehabilitation of Whitewater’s Water Treatment Plant	Gweru
Rehabilitation of Roads	Bulawayo, Binga RDC
Water and Sewer Project	Harare, Lusulu Business Center
Classroom block construction	Zvimba RDC, Binga
Boreholes	Chirumhanzu
Road construction equipment	Chimanimani RDC, Mutasa RDC
Refuse Truck	Mazowe RDC

Source: Compiled by ZIMCODD

41. <https://hourlyhits.com/e-passport-application-decentralized-even-to-the-diaspora/>

Figure 10.2. Devolution budget performance for 2021
(as at September 30, 2021)

Entity	2021 Estimates			Disbursements	Balance
PROVINCIAL COUNCIL	Operational (ZWL\$)	Capital (ZWL\$)	Total (ZWL\$)	Total (ZWL\$)	(ZWL\$)
Bulawayo Metropolitan	9,272,800	44,045,700	53,318,500	1,364,000	51,954,500
Manicaland	55,508,700	263,666,500	319,175,200	10,592,650	308,582,550
Mashonaland Central	35,974,800	170,880,500	206,855,300	7,476,086	199,379,215
Mashonaland East	44,303,200	210,440,200	254,743,400	8,702,086	246,041,315
Mashonaland West	50,426,700	239,526,700	289,953,400	9,844,650	280,108,750
Matebeleleland North	29,426,200	139,774,500	169,200,700	6,755,650	162,445,050
Matebeleleland South	37,292,500	177,139,500	214,432,000	7,912,650	206,519,350
Midlands	52,677,100	250,216,200	302,893,300	10,176,650	292,716,650
Masvingo	48,936,400	232,447,800	281,384,200	9,383,086	272,001,115
Harare Metropolitan	26,981,500	128,162,300	155,143,800	3,970,000	151,173,800
Total	390,799,900	1,856,299,90	2,247,099,800	76,177,507	2,170,922,294
LOCAL AUTHORITIES					
Bulawayo Metropolitan	16,952,700	483,152,400	500,105,100	135,948,313	364,156,787
Manicaland Province	71,230,200	2,030,058,600	2,101,288,800	617,537,046	1,483,751,754
Mashonaland Central	60,627,500	1,727,885,100	1,788,512,600	567,978,715	1,220,533,885
Mashonaland East	61,040,100	1,739,642,000	1,800,682,100	668,722,530	1,131,959,570
Mashonaland West	76,196,100	2,171,587,200	2,247,783,300	942,146,369	1,305,636,931
Matebeleleland North	51,968,900	1,481,115,200	1,533,084,100	552,602,968	980,481,132
Matebeleleland South	48,713,900	1,388,349,100	1,437,063,000	626,962,035	810,100,965
Midlands	79,071,600	2,253,536,400	2,332,608,000	993,456,389	1,339,151,611
Masvingo	62,565,100	1,783,102,400	1,845,667,500	737,525,610	1,108,141,890
Harare Metropolitan	57,834,000	1,648,271,700	1,706,105,700	392,030,259	1,314,075,441
Sub-Total	586,200,100	16,706,700,100	17,292,900,200	6,234,910,234	11,057,989,966
Total	977,000,000	18,563,000,00	19,540,000,000	6,311,087,741	13,228,912,260

Extracted from the MoFED (2021)

ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION

The Home Affairs Ministry has also decentralized in some instances to districts such that citizens can assess birth certificates, Identity Cards and Passports to improve citizen documentation such that undocumented citizens get equal and fair access to services. The Judiciary has availed higher judicial courts such as the High Court in Mutare and Chinhoyi for speedy settlement of cases. Other services in decentralization pipeline include the e-passport and the intended automation for ID and passport applications.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Funding for Devolution and Decentralization remains low for the vast developmental needs across the country as either the value of ZWL budget allocation amount is eroded by inflation or the allocation is less than the stipulated 5% benchmark.

Recommendation: Government must observe at least the 5% of the budget benchmark.

- The poor budget implementation by the treasury delays the disbursement of funds to the local authorities thereby stalling projects running across the breadth and width of the country.

Recommendation: Timely disbursement of funds must be observed if devolution and decentralization is to transform the lives of the populace.

- No reconciliation/audit records are made public on how devolution funds are being utilized. Essentially such funds are open to corruption, abuse and embezzlement.

Recommendation: Devolution funds must be audited periodically and corrective action must be taken to plug leakages, corruption, inefficiency and embezzlement.

- The efficacy of devolution and decentralization is based on the decisions made by local authorities whose personnel might be ill-skilled to make such decisions. Accordingly, resources might be utilized inefficiently. Also, local political leaders may use their political power to take advantage of local resources. This may deprive citizens of these resources; hence, affect the economic performance at the local level. A good example of abuse of resources in line with corruption is the case of Mliswa Chikoka a

Provincial Minister in Mashonaland West who cited that some local authorities were buying cars for senior managers and councilors, allocation of expensive cell phones and laptops out of devolution funds.

Recommendations: It is critical for government to train/equip personnel in local authorities to manage large projects without the help of the central government. It is imperative too to limit the influence of politics in the management of devolution resources.

Further Recommendations

- There is need for a sincere and genuine clarification of the meaning and boundaries of devolution. As it stands devolution has different meanings to different people. Government, civil society and other stakeholders must strive to produce a shared meaning of devolution.
- There is need for public awareness about devolution and decentralization.
- Central government must demonstrate political commitment to the full implementation of devolution of power. A half-backed approach to implementation of devolution will not give the required development congruent to Vision 2030.



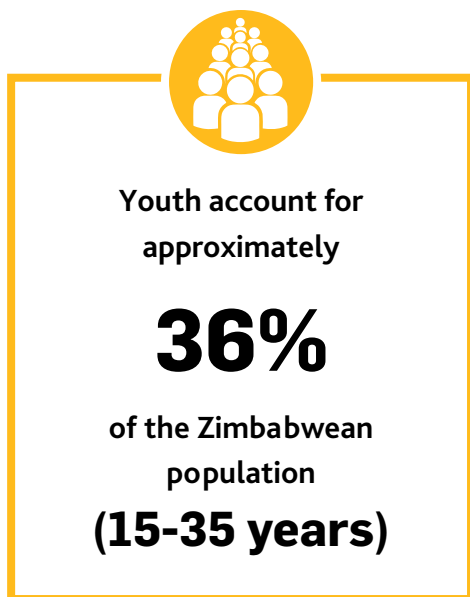
11

PRIORITY AREA

YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE

INTRODUCTION

The Youth constituency, is a key demographic group within the county. Accordingly, Youth account for approximately 36% of the Zimbabwean population (15-35 years). This figure grows exponentially to approximately 77% of the population when we factor those below the age of 15 years. These figures speak volumes which the NDS1 acknowledges by stating that *'Youth are a valuable resource especially if they are allowed to build and strengthen qualities that enable them to grow and flourish into responsible citizens given that they account for the significant proportion of the Zimbabwean population.'* With its largely youthful population, Zimbabwe could benefit from a demographic dividend subject to the right investments and policies.



However, Zimbabwean youth face a myriad of challenges that are not limited to:

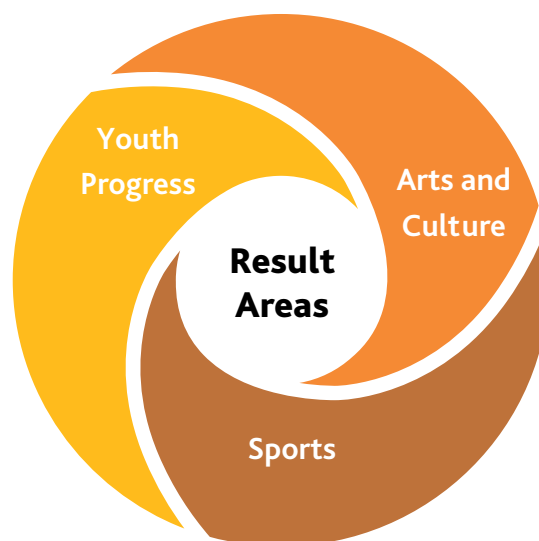
- unemployment,⁴²
- stifled access to education and training facilities,
- constrained access to youth friendly health services,
- gender discrimination and gender-based violence,
- unavailability of project funding,
- limited participation in decision making processes and platforms,
- alcohol and substance abuse and
- lack of recreational facilities amongst other challenges.

The NDS1 seeks to address this conflation of ills.

Priority Area 11 also focuses on culture – an important pillar for sustainable socio-economic development. Under the NDS1, the Government recognises the power of culture in transforming societies, fostering strong family values, a sense of identity and belonging for all people.

Communities throughout the country need to tap into the potential of the culture, arts and heritage sector to derive economic value through creative and cultural industries which contributes to the Provincial and National Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Additionally, the NDS1 recognizes that Sports and recreation provide individuals with opportunities to improve their income, physical as well as mental well-being, and development of confidence and social skills, social inclusion, community development and diversion from anti-social behaviour. Sport and active recreation provide opportunities for extended life-span and reduction in health expenditure.

It is important to note that in the National Budget of 2021, the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation was allocated an amount of ZWD\$3,447 billion which was to be divided across the different pillars of the NDS1 specific to Youth. This translates to less than 3% of the national Budget. Categorically, NDS1 Priority Area 11 (Youth, Sport and Culture) has three key result areas. The analysis shall be guided by these to study progress that made in 2021.



42. There is a high level of unemployment in both urban and rural areas with a total of 68.5% youth being unemployed (66.3% male and 69.5% female) (LFS, 2014).

i. ANALYSIS OF YOUTH PROGRESS

It is important to note that while gains on the participation of Youth in decision making and development processes might be difficult to measure at this point in time, the assessment of the progress is based on available information and data.

Table 11.1.⁴³ **Targets vs Achievements - Youth**

National Priority Area	National Key Result Area (KRA)	National Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Yearly Target 2021	2021 First Quarter Performance			
				Year 2020	Units/ZWL \$/%		Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Variance	Reasons accounting for progress or lack of it
Youth, Sport and Culture	Youth, Sport and Culture promotion and development	1. Increased youth participation in development and decision-making processes	Number of Youth leaders capacitated.	2020	1837 Youths	10000 Youths	1500 Youths	1940 Youths	+440 Youths	Most of the activities were done virtually due to Covid restrictions.
			Number of Youth interact Centres established.	2020	6 Centres	6 Centres	1 Centres	1 Centres	0	Chambuta Youth Interact Centre is now complete.
			Number of Youth policies developed.	2020	3 policies	3 policies	1 policy	1 policy	0	Revised National Youth Policy was approved by Cabinet. However, the Policy document is yet to be launched to operationalize it.
			Number of youths trained in vocational and entrepreneurial skills annually.	2020	12 000 youths	18 500 youths	1500 youths	3488 youths	+1988 youths	The target for the first quarter was set low due to uncertainty of COVID-19 pandemic.

43. Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation, 2021

ii. ARTS AND CULTURE

The Ministry made progress within the reporting period in meeting the set targets. Table 11.2 captures the key aspects under which progress for the Ministry is assessed.

Table 11.2.⁴⁴ **Targets vs Achievements - Culture**

National Priority Area	National Key Result Area (KRA)	National Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Yearly Target 2021	2021 First Quarter Performance			Reasons accounting for progress or lack of it
				Year 2020	Units/ZWL \$/%		Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Variance	
2. Increased promotion and safeguarding of cultural and creative practices, goods and services			Number of cultural and heritage centres.	2020	4 Centres	6 Centres	1 Centre	2 Centres	+1 Centre	Chambuta Cultural and Creative Gazebo is at 40% completion.
			Number of active marketing platforms.	2020	10 Platforms	10 Platforms	4 Platforms	6 Platforms	+2 Platforms	Acquisition of Tengenenge Sculptor Park. 41st Independence Celebrations Children's Party International Women's Day Celebrations Moyo Inzenza Book Launch National Merit Awards 2021
			Amount of Revenue generated	2020	\$20	\$72	0	0	0	CCIs have been seriously affected by the COVID-19 induced lockdown

44. Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation, 2021

from the consumption of cultural products and services (USD Millions).	2020	1 activity	2 activities	0 activities	1 activity	+1 activity	Nhanga, Gota, Ixhiba Project has launched and is being implemented in 9 Provinces.
Proportion of locals participating in cultural activities out of 10.	2020	2 Protocols	3 Protocols	0 Protocols	2 Protocols	+2 Protocols	Validation of African Union Cultural and Creative Industries Action Plan. Approval of Arts and Culture Bill Principles by Cabinet.
Number of ratified national and international standards and protocols dealing with culture and heritage per annum.	2020	1 Industry	2 Industries	2 Industries	1 Industry	-1 Industry	Chinhoyi and Zvishavane Districts have conducted virtual intellectual property and copyrights.
Proportion of Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) practitioners involved in the protection of	2020						

	intellectual property and copyrights out of 10.									
	Percentage increase on research papers/publications on Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) and heritage (%).	2020	2%	3%	0	1%	+1%			UNESCO 2003 ICH Convention application to raise awareness amongst traditional leaders and communities in Zimbabwe.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Two cultural and heritage centres (the Chambuta Cultural and Creative Gazebo) were at 40% completion and within the same period government acquired Tengenenge Sculptor Park against a target of one centre. Six (6) active marketing platforms against a target of 4 platforms within the quarter were established. However, the Ministry was unable to generate revenue from the consumption of cultural products and services due to COVID-19 restrictions. The government ratified two (2) national and international standards and protocols dealing with culture and heritage (the African Union Cultural and Creative Industries Action Plan and the Approval of Arts and Culture Bill Principles by Cabinet) against no initial target.

iii. SPORTS

The impact of prolonged periods of national lockdown to contain the spread of COVID-19 was felt the hardest within the sporting fraternity as most of the activities are outdoor and gather hundreds to thousands of fans. In light of this, there was not much progress that was made in achieving the stated targets within the reporting period (see Table 11.3).

Table 11.3.⁴⁵ **Targets vs Achievements - Sports**

National Priority Area	National Key Result Area (KRA)	National Outcome	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Yearly Target 2021	2021 First Quarter Performance			
				Year 2020	Units/ZWL \$/%		Q1 Target	Q1 Actual	Variance	Reasons accounting for progress or lack of it
3. Increased levels of participation in sport and recreation activities			Percentage increase in number of participants in sport and recreation programs and activities (%).	2020	15%	17%	3%	0.5%	-2.5%	The Covid-19 induced national lockdown led to cancellation of planned activities.
			Number of standard sport and recreation facilities constructed/re-furbished per annum.	2020	10 facilities	10 facilities	1 facility	1 facility	-	Refurbishment works at the ZNSS were sustained and facility hosted CAF sanctioned activities.
			Amount of revenue	2020	\$10	\$10	\$4	0.2	-3.8	Statutory remittances from registered Associations and

45. Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation, 2021

	generated through sport and recreation per annum USD million.								and other bodies were suspended as part of national lockdown measures.
	Number of sport and recreational events participated in or hosted (national, regional and international).	2020	3 events	15 events	5 events	8 events	+3 events	Participation involved teams in the following sport codes: boxing, cricket, football, swimming, cricket, golf, shooting, Dubai Grand Prix, triathlon.	
	Increase in consumption of local sport and recreation goods and services. (%)	2020	10%	30%	7%	5%	-2%	SRC, ZOC and National Associations conducted virtual seminars, meetings and workshops and the uptake was commendable.	

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The cancellation of several sporting games in light of the pandemic affected activity in sport and recreation programs and activities. The refurbishment of one (1) sport and recreation facility (the Zimbabwe National Sports Stadium (ZNSS)) was sustained although several matches were banned at ZNSS as the repairs were not in tandem with set standards for hosting soccer matches. The Ministry did not meet its set revenue target from sport and recreation given suspension of statutory remittances from registered associations and other bodies as part of the national lockdown measures. The Country hosted or

participated in 8 sport and recreational events (national, regional and international). Participation involved teams in the following sport codes: boxing, cricket, football, swimming, cricket, golf, shooting, Dubai Grand Prix and triathlon. A 3% increase in consumption of local sport and recreation goods and services, against a set target of 5 (%) gives a 2% variance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The government must address the delay in budgetary disbursements to line Ministries as lack of progress was on account of this.

- The government must introduce robust measures that allow for Sporting and Cultural facilities to function while under COVID-19 restrictions.
- Increased political will by the Government is expected in creating an enabling environment for Youth. The National Youth Policy document is still to be launched although it was initiated and completed in 2020. Also, the Zimbabwe Youth Bill remains at the draft stage.
- The Parliamentary Portfolio Committee for Youth, Sports, Arts and Recreation to increase its oversight work on the Ministry by way of holding quarterly monitoring meetings to ensure progress and compliance to the set targets within NDS1.
- The budgetary allocation for Youth, Art, Sport, Recreation must be increased to support robust programmes that can effectively empower the Youth. CSOs to create a digital dashboard which tracks the progress being made by the Ministry in implementing NDS1. This allows for a more accessible portal on which CSOs keen on youth development can readily access information. This is key in fostering synergies.

“

Youth are a valuable resource especially if they are allowed to build and strengthen qualities that enable them to grow and flourish into responsible citizens given that they account for the significant proportion of the Zimbabwean population.”



12

PRIORITY AREA

SOCIAL PROTECTION

INTRODUCTION

Social protection systems are important in reducing the lifelong consequences of poverty and exclusion. In the context of COVID-19, social protection is essential in removing financial barriers in accessing social services and ensuring household food security.

The provision of social protection cushions households, especially the vulnerable, to afford basic needs during times of reduced economic activity and growing unemployment. A sound social protection strategy should also address the needs of vulnerable groups such as orphaned or abandoned children, single mothers, female-headed households, people living with HIV and AIDS, widows, old persons in need and the disabled.

Various international, continental and national instruments regard social protection as a human right. Section 30 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe specifies that *“the State must take all practical measures, within the limits of the resources available to it, to provide social security and social care to those who are in need”*. At the international level, some of the social protection frameworks include:

- Articles 22 and 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948;
- Article 9 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1976;
- Article 28 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) of 2008;
- SADC Code on Social Security, 2007;
- Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102), International Labour Organisation (ILO); and,
- Sustainable Development Goal 1.

In Zimbabwe, the NDS1 (2021-2025) commits to reduce extreme poverty and improve access to basic social services in all its forms and dimensions, including narrowing inequalities.

Despite the well-meaning social protection frameworks, poverty has remained high in Zimbabwe over the years, mainly driven by volatile macroeconomic environment and weak economic growth, de-industrialization coupled by informalization of the economy and climate change shocks. Extreme poverty rate was estimated to have reached 49 percent in 2020 from 38 percent in 2019 (see Figure 12.1).

The implementation of social protection in Zimbabwe is currently guided by the NDS1, the 2016 National Social Protection Policy Framework and the 2021 National Disability Policy, all financed through the national budget.

The NDS 1 aims to:

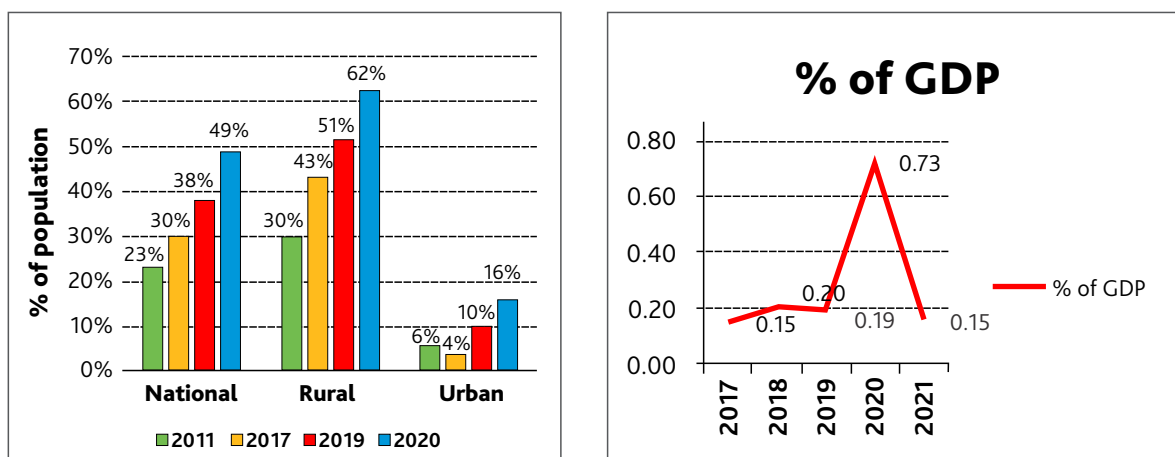
- reduce the number of people below the food poverty line,
- increase the number of people receiving social assistance from 65% in 2020 to 85% by 2025,
- increase proportion of population with access to social care and support services from 15% in 2020 to 75% by 2025,
- increase social insurance cover to 67% by 2025, and
- increase livelihoods support from 3% to 17% by 2025.

However, social protection budget allocations have remained low (see Figure 12.2)



The provision of social protection cushions households, especially the vulnerable, to afford basic needs during times of reduced economic activity and growing unemployment.”

Figure 12.1. Extreme Poverty Rate (2011-2020) vs Social Protection Budget Allocations



Source: ZIMSTAT, World Bank Rapid PICES Report Third Round 2021



63%

Zimbabweans experience food poverty

NDS1 SOCIAL PROTECTION PERFORMANCE: TARGETS VS 2021 ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Available data shows that 63% Zimbabweans experience food poverty, a feat slightly below the 65% baseline but beyond the 50% target for the same period. Whilst data for other indicators are to be updated, it is almost certain that such indicators did not perform well in 2021 given fiscal headwinds. Whereas more resources were availed for social protection, incessant inflation ate into the value and reduced the intended welfare benefits. All the same, packages meant to benefit the vulnerable during COVID-19 lockdowns were distributed dubiously leading to some of the vulnerable being unable to get the intended relief.

Table 12.1. NDS1 Social Protection Performance: Targets vs 2021 Actual Achievements

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ⁴⁶	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Social Assistance	Reduce extreme poverty	% of people below the food poverty line.	65%	50%	63%
		% of people receiving social assistance across all interventions.	62%	65%	To be updated

46. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

Livelihoods Support	Improved Livelihoods for the poor and vulnerable	Percentage of people with improved Resilience.	2%	3%	To be updated
		% of Households supported with livelihoods support.	5%	8%	To be updated
		% of Households with improved source of Livelihoods.	3%	5%	To be updated

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

On account of limited data, this section analyses the budget performance allocated to social protection in 2021.

- By September of 2021, ZWL20.1 billion was spend on social benefits versus ZWL9.1 billion target – translating to 121.5% budget overrun targeting the cushioning of the vulnerable. The extra resources were deployed as follows: Productive Social Protection Scheme recorded ZWL13.7 billion; Harmonized Social Cash Transfers received ZWL874.6 million; Support for the elderly, ZWL50 million; Disability support ZWL113 million, as well as COVID-19 containment cost totaling ZWL100 million.⁴⁷
- The increase in social protection expenditure is commendable as initially the budget had provided only ZWL5.5 billion targeted at BEAM (ZWL 2 billion), Children in Difficult Circumstances (ZWL100 million), Harmonized Cash Transfers (ZWL 900 million), Health Assistance (ZWL70 million), Disabilities Support (ZWL140 million), Old age support (ZWL50 million), Sustainable Livelihoods (ZWL25 million) and ZWL1.7 billion for drought mitigation.⁴⁸
- The increase in Social Protection spending is in line with UNICEF’s estimated increase in Social Spending needs for 2021 given that 2.7 million people required safe water and sanitation, 4.6 million children need formal and non-formal education; and 2.2 million people in urban areas required social protection.
- More people are in need of social protection as a result of COVID-19 induced economic shocks rendering most households extremely

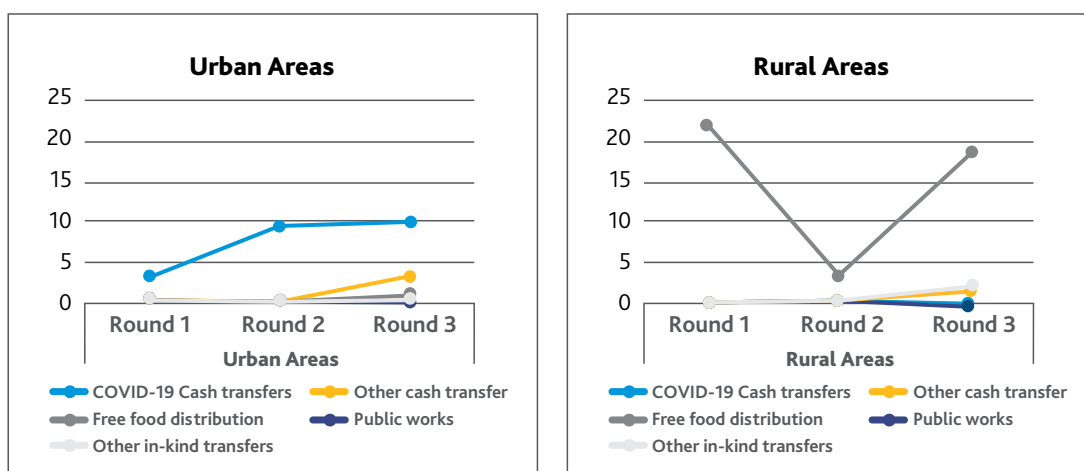
47. Ministry of Finance: The 2022 National Budget Statement.

48. Ministry of Finance: The 2021 National Budget Statement.

poor as they lost jobs and income whilst the cost of living is increasing against stunted salaries.

- Unclear safety net disbursement criterion threatens the NDS1 objective of expanding social protection services to the most vulnerable.
- The lack of an up-to-date data base has seen low coverage of social protection (below 10%) for social safety nets (see figure 12.2).
- The NDS1 target of increasing the number of people receiving social assistance across all the social protection interventions from 65% in 2020 to 85% by 2025 will remain elusive if budget allocation and disbursement methodologies for social protection programmes are not revisited.
- The amount paid as safety nets is way below the Poverty Datum Line as beneficiaries received between ZWL 1500 and ZWL 3000 per month, an amount below the Total Consumption Poverty Line of ZWL\$7 556 per person as of November 2021.
- NGOs such as WFP, Goal, Plan International and the Dan Church Aid are footing the bill for social protection as they run programmes such as drought relief and USD-denominated cash transfers.

Figure 12.2. Coverage of safety net programs (proportion of households receiving assistance)



Note: First round dates - 6 to 24 July 2020; Second round dates - 24 August to 23 September 2020; Third round dates - 15 December 2020 to 10 March 2021

Source: ZIMSTAT, World Bank Rapid PICES Report Third Round 2021

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Government must pay cash transfers above the poverty datum line to address the paltry safety nets that are subject to transfer charges and continuously lose value on account of incessant inflation.

- It is imperative for government to widen social protection reach by increasing social protection spending to the African Union Social Protection Benchmark of 4.5% of the GDP given the surge in vulnerability.
- There is also need for better social protection targeting through the use of publicly accessible data bases for the various social protection programmes to ensure that deserving vulnerable groups benefit.
- Government should prioritize timeous disbursements of funds from treasury as stipulated in the NDS1 blue print to ensure that social protection interventions have meaningful impact.
- Government must avail social protection data disaggregated by gender, disability status, age and intervention programme to ease the NDS1 monitoring and inform incremental policy shifts.



In Zimbabwe, the NDS1 (2021-2025) commits to reduce extreme poverty and improve access to basic social services in all its forms and dimensions, including narrowing inequalities.”



13

PRIORITY AREA

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Environmental Protection, Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management are vital ingredients of modern-day national development. Climate change has become a threat to humanity and development, thus there is need for a viable environmental protection framework to build climate resilience systems. The NDS1 submits that *“Zimbabwe is experiencing increasing environmental challenges which include water, land and air pollution, littering, mushrooming of illegal waste dumps, siltation, illegal mining, veld fires, deforestation, climate change, poaching and bio-diversity loss”*. These activities unequivocally impinge on the ambitious target of the NDS1 to attain sustainable development and socio-economic justice.

The success of the NDS1 environment protection thematic area will be measured by the country's ability to provide clean water, a clean and healthy environment, curb wildlife and biodiversity loss and mitigate the degradation of the environment. Therefore, environmental sustainability demands societies to maintain natural capital (the environment) as both a provider of economic inputs, as 'sources'; and an absorber, as 'sinks' of economic outputs called 'wastes'. At the 'source site', harvest rates of resources must be kept within regeneration rates.

At the 'sink site', waste emissions from industrial production and other economic activities must be controlled so as not to exceed the capacity of the environment to assimilate them without impairment.⁴⁹ And this is what the NDS1 should strive to achieve.

Key variables such as tourism growth, forest production and processing, climate action and ecosystem health will be used to determine the success in this first NDS1 monitoring report.

ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS

Table 13.1. Targets vs Actual Performance – Environmental Protection, Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ⁵⁰	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Sustainable Tourism Development	Tourism growth	Number of Tourist arrivals (Millions of Tourists)	0.9	1.1	Declined by 77% that is from 2 466 183 in 2019 to 567 766 in 2020 ⁵¹
		Employment contribution (thousands)	93	96	n/d
		Value of Tourism investment (Millions of US\$)	229	280	100 Million ⁵²
		Amount of Tourism receipts (US\$)Billions	0.467	0.571	n/d
Economic (Forestry)	Forest production and Processing	Value of processed timber (Million US\$)	51.1	60	n/d
		Area under indigenous forests (Million Ha)	9.9	10	n/d
		Volume of timber sustainably produced (m3)	265156	285 000	Lumber production decreased from 33 041 to 51 017 in 2020

49. Goodland, R., 1995, The concept of environmental sustainability, Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics, Vol 26:1-24

50. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

51. Tourist arrivals drop by 77% - Zimbabwe Situation

52. <https://www.herald.co.zw/covid-19-tourism-joys-sorrows-of-2021>

					Production of transmission poles decreased from 11 300 to 6 195
Economic (Climate)	Climate action	Number of districts integrating climate change in development planning frameworks	3	15	10 districts
		Level of penetration of early warnings Systems (%)	45	50	50%
		levels of GHGs emissions (MtCO ₂ eq)	36.6	36	n/d
Economic (Environment)	Ecosystem health	Number of recycling initiatives	40	43	1 in Kwekwe
		Mining area rehabilitated (Ha)	2500	4000	No Data however, Chiadzwa still remains the same with unrehabilitated disused mines
		Number of landfills established	3	4	n/d
		Area of wetlands restored and protected (Ha)	701100	751 100	Completed National Wetland Master Plan in June 2021 that will be used to inform the National Wetland Policy.

In the area of Sustainable Tourism Development, the 2021 NDS1 targets were not met as key variables failed to pacify their baselines. Tourism growth had a baseline of 0.9 million tourists and a target of 1.1 million but managed to attract 567 766 tourists, a 77% decline against the 2020 arrivals⁵³ on account of COVID-19 travel restrictions. The baseline value of tourism investments was 229 million and a target of 280 million for 2021 yet investments only managed to reach 100 million. Other KRA variables such as employment creation, amount of tourism receipts, and economic forestry had no data

thereby making it difficult to ascertain the exact progress made, leaving room for failure speculation. On volume of timber sustainably produced (m³) available data shows that lumber production decreased to 33 041 in 2021 from 51 017 in 2020 and production of transmission poles decreased from 11 300 (2020) to 6 195 (2021).

Economic climate has done fairly well with 10 districts out of 15 districts including climate change in their frameworks. The level of early warning penetration has also increased since the devastating Cyclone Idai of 2019.

53. <https://www.newsday.co.zw/2022/01/tourist-arrivals-drop-by-77/>

The Department of Civil Protection in collaboration with various network service providers such as Econet, NetOne and Telecel have made use of bulk sms to disseminate information. Nevertheless, data on levels of GHGs emissions (MtCO₂eq) was unavailable.

The economic environment could not be traced objectively owing to data unavailability. Only 1 recycling initiative sufficed in 2021 against a target of 43. Rehabilitation of mining areas remains outstanding as Chiadzwa, Mutoko, Penhalonga and other mining host communities are still to be rehabilitated.

Nonetheless, positive strides have been witnessed in trying to protect wetlands as the government came up with a National Wetland Master Plan in June 2021 that will be used to inform the National Wetland Policy.

FRAMEWORKS GOVERNING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

There are a number of policies that regulates environmental protection, climate resilience and natural resource management in Zimbabwe. These include the Climate Change Policy, Climate Change Response Strategy, Environmental Protection Act, Mines and Minerals Acts, Wildlife Act and Forestry Act. All these frameworks were created to have optimum environmental protection coupled with robust natural resource management and climate resilience. However, frameworks on their own do not have the potency to bring transformation as there is need for political will and strong institutions in ensuring that all prescribed policies are adhered to.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The NDS1 failed to meet all the targets for 2021 largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic which affected the tourism sector culminating in the decrease of tourists by 77%, from 2 466 183 in 2019 to 567 766 in 2020.⁵⁴ The tracking of the progress made in 2021 was affected by the unavailability of data in many KRAs. However, marked progress was noted as 10 out of a target of 15 integrated climate change in their frameworks, a positive stride towards robust climate change management. DCP has also increased its capacity in early warning system and risk zoning although there is a lot that still need to be done. The government completed the National Wetland Master Plan in June 2021, a foundation for the National Wetland Policy.

- There is need for the government to prioritise NDS1 and increase political will in its implementation by producing timely and disaggregated data for tracking the NDS1.
- The government should be transparent and accountable despite its performance. Thus, the government should publicize its performance despite its failure to meet prescribe targets.
- There is need to expedite environmental rehabilitation in areas such as Chiadzwa, Mutoko and Penhalonga as nothing has been done so far.

54. Tourist arrivals drop by 77% - Zimbabwe Situation



14

PRIORITY AREA

GOVERNANCE

INTRODUCTION

“Good governance is perhaps the single most important factor in eradicating poverty and promoting development” – Kofi Annan, 2011 (in AfDB 2013).⁵⁵

According to the United Nations (UN), national governance is broadly defined as *“the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country’s affairs at all levels”* (UNDESA 2016).⁵⁶ Good governance then, includes *“the rule of law, effective institutions, transparency and accountability in the management of public affairs, respect for human rights, and the participation of all citizens in the decisions that affect their lives”* (UNDESA 2016). The principles of good governance should be built on a foundation of effective states, mobilised civil societies and an efficient private sector.

55. African Development Bank (AfDB). 2013. Governance Strategic Framework and Action Plan (GAP II) (2014-2018).

56. United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA). 2016. World Economic and Social Survey 2014/2015. Learning from National Policies Supporting MDG Implementation

Good governance is very critical in the attainment of social and economic justice and subsequently in the attainment of Vision 2030. The Constitution of Zimbabwe, as the supreme law of the land, supports good governance, accountability and social justice. Some of its founding principles are the rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedoms and good governance. The Public Entities Corporate Governance Act is also another piece of legislation that promotes and supports good governance in Zimbabwe. Chapter 9 (f) of the Constitution compels public institutions to be accountable to parliament and citizens and section 9 (d) states that services must be provided impartially, fairly, equitably and without bias. Good governance also entails citizens' participation in making decisions about how public resources are mobilized, managed and distributed.

It should however be noted that regardless of the strong legal and policy framework around good governance, Zimbabwe is still grappling to promote good governance and accountability due to the failure to uphold rule of law and Constitutional provisions. The partisan application of the law has been the major obstacle militating against the attainment of good governance. Most of the people who are arrested on corruption allegations are normally released and, in some instances, charges are dropped as the culprits are connected to powerful politicians.

For example, Former Minister of Health Obadiah Moyo was acquitted of all corruption charges although there was overwhelming evidence that he corruptly issued US\$60 million in tenders to supply COVID-19 test kits and medical equipment to obscure companies linked to the political elite. All this points to a weak and compromised judiciary system that does not promote good governance.

The government of Zimbabwe has also failed to promote the tenets of social and economic justice in governance, particularly natural resources management. Companies have been extracting resources from communities and the host communities have not been benefiting. Recently there has been a series of displacements in areas like Mutoko, Chiredzi and UMP to pave way for “developmental” projects without adequate consultations with the communities. This is an indication that the governance approach of government in management of natural resources is industry-centred yet it is supposed to be centred on citizens as they are the owners of the resources.

“

Good governance is very critical in the attainment of social and economic justice and subsequently in the attainment of Vision 2030.”

PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS ANNUAL TARGETS

Exercising citizen's voice through direct engagements with the councillors and Members of Parliament (MPs) has been significantly impacted by the recalling of councillors and MPs in some wards and constituencies across the country. This means that a critical channel for citizens to exercise their voice for social accountability has been seriously undermined. The SIVIO Institute revealed that 84% of citizens were dissatisfied by the state of the economy while 75% were not satisfied by the performance of government. The findings point to the fact that citizens are generally not happy with the way government is handling issues.

Table 14.1. Targets vs Achievements in 2021 - Governance

NDS1 KRA	KRA Variables ⁵⁷	Indicator/ Measurement	Baseline	2021 NDS1 Target	2021 Performance
Public Service Delivery	Service delivery	World Happiness Index (proxy).	148/156 (2020)	-	151/156
Administration (Public Sector)	Enhanced transparency and accountability	IBP Open Budget Survey score.	49 (2019)	55	No data yet
		PEFA score on reduced expenditures and revenues outside the financial reports.	D	D	n/d
		PEFA score on public access to key fiscal information.	D	D	n/d
		PEFA score on Improving audit follow ups.	C	C	n/d
	Disaster risk management Processing	Level of disaster preparedness.	40%	45%	n/d
Administration (Business)	Enhanced ease of doing business	Enhanced ease of doing business.	140 (2019)	135	147

57. These are the disaggregated variables that are pinned to an objective.

Security (Justice Law and Order Sector)	Rule of law	Ranking on Rule of Law Index (RLI)	116 (2019)	114	127/139
	Public safety and order	Level of crime rate per 100,000 people	2704	2544	
Security (Public sector)	Reduced corruption	Corruption perception index ranking	157 (2020)	156/180	157/180
		Property rights index ranking	123 (2019)	119	120/129
	Human rights	Human Freedom Index	Partly free	Free	Not free
		Mo Ibrahim Index	44.7%	50%	46.1%
		Universal Human Rights Index (% Recommendations Implemented)	-	70%	n/d
	National Unity, Peace And Reconciliation	Social cohesion	Number of Incidents of conflict	530	1500
Legislative and policy framework for peace recommended and adopted			5	5 recommendations	2
Peace and tranquility		Infrastructures for peace building, including Conflict Early Warning Early Response (CEWER) system established	10	35 peace structures	n/d
		Number of persons affected by conflicts who have been given assistance (disaggregated by sex, age, disability, category and location)	50	100 per province	n/d
		Number of documented historical conflict narratives and conflict risk models defined by periods and geographical areas	1	1 per province	0

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the issues raised in this brief and the gross failure to meet all targets as shown in table 14.1, the following recommendations stand:

- There is need to educate citizens about the NDS 1 and what it entails for them to be able to hold government to account regarding its promises
- There is also need to keep on pushing and advocating for independence of anti-corruption institutions such as ZACC and NPA for them to execute their mandates in a professional and ethical manner
- CSOs should push for by-elections so that citizens can enjoy their constitutional right of having representatives in local authorities and parliament.
- Zimbabwe should join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiatives. This will improve access to information around extractive industry, thus making it easy to hold government to account.
- CSOs should also push government to make available the beneficial ownership register of people who are given contracts by government. This will help to expose corruption in the issuing of tenders for public works.
- Instead of relying on various global and regional indexes for measuring progress in implementing NDS 1, there is also need to come up with localized targets that resonate with contextual realities.



Good governance includes the rule of law, effective institutions, transparency and accountability in the management of public affairs, respect for human rights, and the participation of all citizens in the decisions that affect their lives (UNDESA 2016)."

CONCLUSION

OVERALL NDS1 PERFORMANCE

The tracking of the NDS1 through merged efforts from various CSOs faces serious data challenges as national statistics compiled by ZimStat are still to be fine-tuned to match the timely granular data requirements conversant with the monitoring of the NDS1. Despite the said challenges, the available data and expert introspection shows a mixture of successes and misses with regard to the set performance targets versus the actual performance of the blueprint per each priority area as presented hereunder.

NDS1 PRIORITY AREA AND SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

Economic Growth and Stability of National Development

01

Most macro-economic variables missed their set targets as follows:

- Inflation: target of 134.8% vs 143.27%.
- Exchange rate: the baseline was 82 and auction market rate ended the year at 112.
- Public debt: 64.7% targeted vs 95%.
- Budget deficit: A target of -1.29% against -1.3% actual fiscal deficit.

Food and Nutrition Security

02

- The economy produced maize beyond the 50% food sufficiency threshold by 1.2%.
- Food insecurity stood at 40.9% vs a target of 30%.
- Economic agriculture performed well as production exceeded 2021 targets especially for maize, sugar beans, traditional grains, tobacco, cotton seed, groundnuts and banana. Dairy, beef cattle herd and soya beans missed production targets in 2021.
- Access to safe water recorded 35% against target of 77%.
- Stunted growth in children shot to 29.4% versus a target of 21%.

Moving the Economy up the Value Chain and Structural Transformation

03

- The manufacturing sector performed well recording 18.43% manufacturing/GDP (%) versus a target of 12.1%.
- Capacity utilization exceeded the 2021 target of 50% by 8%.
- Manufacturing value added shot to ZWL213 billion against a target of ZWL 193.096 billion.
- Other targets remain work in progress whilst some lack enough data for objective assessment.

Transport, Infrastructure and Utilities

04

This priority area is largely affected by unavailability of data and most KRAs are not trackable except for the following:

- National ethanol storage remained at 11.3.
- Fuel pipeline capacity remained at 2190.
- Access to electricity stood at 41.3% against 60% target.
- The % of population using an improved drinking source failed to meet the 79% target by 11%.
- The % of the population using improved sanitation facilities was at 69.8% vs a target of 71.64%.
- Other missed target according to available data include the % of road network meeting SATCC standards, % of road network in good condition, number of computerized VID depots, track quality index, freight cargo moved, intercity passengers moved and passenger and cargo handling capacity.

Digital Economy

05

Amidst data challenges, the following are commendable milestones:

- Broadband area coverage has increased.
- Information Communication and Internet Access Centers were increased.
- Digital literacy skills have improved amongst the youth and elders.
- G2C, G2B interfaces and e-government platforms improved.
- Interoperability amongst networks was introduced.

However, data remain expensive for citizens and the digitization of TV remains work in progress. Government is silent about the National Geospatial and Space Agency and the digital divide remains between rural and urban areas.

Housing Delivery

06

Noting the data challenges, the following facts were notable:

- A National Housing Fund was established though resources are meagre.
- Planned housing projects were stalled (Waneka flats, Senondo flats etc).
- 13 000 hectares of land provided for new city in Mt Hampden.
- Water crisis is prevalent in most urban areas and requires urgent attention.
- Infrastructure backlog with respect to social amenities in local authorities.

Human Capital Development and Innovation

07

- Literacy rate was at 86.5% against a target of 92.5%.
- University rankings fell to 71/200 versus a target of 20/200.
- The number of predictive models and number of high-tech industries were 0.

Other KRAs had no disaggregated data to support assessment.

Health and Well-being

08

- Life expectancy was at 61.63 years whilst the target was 61.5 years.
- Maternal mortality was targeted at 388/100 000 but the MICS recorded 462/100 000.
- Overall Vacancy Rate continues to be affected by high exodus of health care workers.
- NCDs and CDs mortality rates are affected by decline in resources allocated.
- VEN stood at 33 against a target of 55%.
- Public health expenditure per individual was expected at US\$35 but the year 2021 recorded US\$25.
- Availability of functional equipment was 5% lower than the target of 44%.
- Amidst lack of data, a number of health indicators are worsening over time.

Image Building, Engagement and Re-engagement

09

Under Image Building:

- the Good Country Index for 2021 was 111 against 98.
- Competitiveness Ranking worsened to 127 versus a target of 113.
- Global Happiness Index stood at 148 exceeding the target by 12 ranks.

Under engagement and re-engagement:

- The country risk index recorded E despite the CC target.
- Removal of sanctions for 2021 was at 0.

Devolution and Decentralization

10

- The 2021 budget allocated ZWL 19.5 billion to devolution and decentralization, 0.4% below a benchmark of 5% of the total budget.
- The government managed to decentralize a number of services such as High Court and other services are in the process of decentralization (E-passport and ID application).

Youth, Sport and Culture

11

- The number of youths trained in vocational training colleges increased to 3488 vs 1500 target.
- A number the youth benefited from empowerment projects (4739 accessed loans, 413 youth companies were registered and 148 250 youth were empowered through Youth Focal Desk in the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Resettlement.
- A number of cultural heritage centers and events were held in 2021 although revenue generation was minimum owing to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Sporting activities were affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

Social Protection

12

- 63% of the population lived in food poverty against 50% benchmark.

Other variables had no data to support assessment but available information shows that:

- Extreme poverty has worsened from 2019.
- The budget spending on social protection has gone down to about 0.15% in 2021

**Environmental
Protection,
Climate
Resilience and
Natural Resource
Management**

13

- Tourist arrivals were dented by COVID-19 thus targets were not met despite the unavailability of data.
- Value of tourism investment was US\$100 million versus a target of US\$280 million.
- Lumber production decreased in 2021 to 33041 from 51017 in 2020.
- Production of transmission poles decreased from 11300 to 6195.
- Level of penetration for early warning systems remains at 50%.
- 10 districts are integrating climate change in development planning against a target of 15.
- Other KRAs do not have data for ease of assessment.

Governance

14

- World Happiness Index worsened to 151/156.
- Ease of Doing Business plunged to 147 from 140 in 2019.
- Ranking of Rule of Law stood 127 against a target of 114.
- Corruption index for 2021 was at 157 against 156.
- Property rights index ranking stood at 120 versus a target of 119.
- Human Freedom Index was not free for 2021.
- Only 2 legislative and policy frameworks were adopted whereas 5 were targeted.

Noting the sketchy performance of the NDS1, it is imperative for government to address all sticking issues around the implementation of the NDS1. This embroils financing and the investment of ample political will if the ambitious aspirations of Vision 2030 are to be attained.



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