



# THE WEEKEND READER

"Your Weekly Read on Debt, Development & Socio-Economic Justice"

## Counting down to International Anti-Corruption Day 2024

On the 9th of December every year, nations across the globe recognize International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) since the adoption of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption in October 2003. This observance serves as an awareness raising platform for the Anti-Corruption agenda, bringing together the efforts of Government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the media and citizens. In this light, IACD is primarily a reflection space for strides in reducing the cancer of corruption which erodes the value of national resources and contributes to the suffering of citizens. For many countries whose corruption indicators remain concerning despite significant investment, there remains the need for political will and increased advocacy for improvement.

The adoption of UNCAC is assumed in the principle concerns, *"about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law."* Where corruption thrives, economies crumble and citizens suffer in turn. ZIMCODD being a pro-poor movement concerned with development and socioeconomic justice, we advocate for reduction of corruption in all its forms including grand and petty.

Zimbabwe signed onto UNCAC in February 2004, making this year the 20th year of its recognition. Significant measures have been taken in those two decades to ensure domestication of UNCAC through the Constitutional creation of the two Chapter 13 institutions, Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) and the National Prosecution Authority (NPA). While significant gains have been made through these institutions and the judiciary, challenges still remain in public enterprises seen through scandals breaking in the public domain consistently.

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ZIMCODD

2024

**INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY**

THEME: UNITING WITH YOUTH AGAINST CORRUPTION: SHAPING TOMORROW'S INTEGRITY

09 DECEMBER 2024

**24 DAYS LEFT**

#Youth4Integrity

Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt & Development  
49 Penderis Road,  
Mount Pleasant,  
Harare, Zimbabwe  
Email: [zimcodd@zimcodd.co.zw](mailto:zimcodd@zimcodd.co.zw)  
[www.zimcodd.org](http://www.zimcodd.org)

Facebook: Zimcodd  
Instagram: Zimcodd1  
Twitter: @ZIMCODD1

The media and civil society remain key institutions in exposing graft and at the same time advocating for increased investment by the public sector through capacitation efforts. At the same time, reports such as the Auditor-General's report annually show inefficiency, abuse of public office and impunity.

According to the Prosecutor General, Justice Loice Matanda-Moyo, Zimbabwe is losing close to US\$2 Billion to corruption every year.<sup>1</sup> This is a significant amount considering that our national annual budget averages around US\$4 Billion. The effects of this graft include;

- Rechanneling resources from public expenditure to private/ individualistic priorities.
- Depleting national revenue thereby forcing the government to accrue public debt for social services and other development projects.
- Increased impunity and poor civil service provision.

It becomes imperative for Zimbabwe to improve her systems against corruption noting that the prevailing context steals the economic future of citizens (especially the youth). ZIMCODD, through our current project titled Strengthening Institutions and Youths Agency in Accountability Narratives (#SIYA), made possible through the support of USAID- Zimbabwe, are using a different approach of cultivating integrity versus 'fighting corruption'. This is due to the fact that culture defines us and once instilled, it will stay within us. Integrity is defined loosely as the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. The effort seeks to inspire behavioral change through 'Integrity Icons' who learn and mobilize other youths against corruption. We acknowledge the need for youth to participate in governance especially noting they constitute 67% of our population.<sup>2</sup> The leading tag for this action is tagged under '[#Youth4Integrity](#)' campaign which also capacitates the youth to mobilize peers against apathy and claiming the democratic space.

### **Recommendations for the Anti-Corruption effort**

- Stiff penalties should be enforced to deter culprits holding public office.
- Increased political will by the Executive to curb corruption.
- Strengthening of oversight institutions and mechanisms informing public debt and Public Finance Management processes on loan contraction, uses and repayments.
- A commitment to implement reforms: legal, institutional, structural and public sector reforms.
- A public debt audit to determine where resources are spent and who is liable for it.

### **Opportunities**

- Economic Specialist: <https://zw.usembassy.gov/jobs/>
- MEL OFFICER NANGO: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/nango-zim\\_monitoring-evaluation-and-learning-mel-activity-7263120101070045184-oqEE?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_ios](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/nango-zim_monitoring-evaluation-and-learning-mel-activity-7263120101070045184-oqEE?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios)
- Programmes Officer NANGO: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/nango-zim\\_programs-officer-vacancy-notice-activity-7263110205293424640-iSbQ?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_ios](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/nango-zim_programs-officer-vacancy-notice-activity-7263110205293424640-iSbQ?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios)
- Senior Programmes Officer: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/nango-zim\\_senior-programmes-officer-vacancy-notice-activity-7263108386483830784-tS\\_D?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_ios](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/nango-zim_senior-programmes-officer-vacancy-notice-activity-7263108386483830784-tS_D?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios)
- National General Secretary: <https://www.nangozim.org/vacancies/national-general-secretary/>

1. <https://www.voanews.com/a/senior-zimbabwean-official-says-corruption-hurting-economy/7604865.html>

2. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Youth/ZimbabweHRCCommission.pdf>



Are you passionate about Social & Economic Justice?  
Do you believe in the movement for equality?

**JOIN NOW!**

Become a registered member of ZIMCODD today: <https://rb.gy/ewz45>

Join our Bulk SMS blast & Mailing List by sending us your email address & phone number to stay caught up on our activities, weekly & monthly reading resources on the Social & Economic justice movement.



SCAN NOW TO BECOME A MEMBER!

**FOLLOW US!**

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### #Youth4Integrity pledge

Are you a member of the youth (18-35 years) with a passion for fighting social and economic injustice? Do you want to join the action for Integrity? Do You want to become an Integrity Icon? If your answer to any of these questions is yes, take the pledge today: <https://rb.gy/9ogzgx>

Watch Episode 5 of our #Youth4Integrity Podcast: <https://youtu.be/rg3bOWjkySs>

### Quote of the week: Pratibha Patil.

*“Corruption is the enemy of development, and of good governance. It must be got rid of. Both the government and the people at large must come together to achieve this national objective.”*



**Picture of the week:** ZIMCODD’s Social & Economic Justice Ambassadors pose with our Executive Director & their awards at the recent ‘The List Awards’.