

Weekend Reader

THE

"Your Weekly Read on Debt, Development & Social & Economic Justice"



As the Year Concludes ZIMCODD has a conviction that besides the daunting challenges that 2021 presented, its work has managed to put the needle higher on demanding transparency, accountability, and judicious use of public resources in the country. This success is not for us to own but for all of you who have followed, contributed, and supported our cause for "Investing in People for Social and Economic Justice"

Through the Weekend Reader we have profiled some of the work we have done in pushing the government to be more responsive to the dictates of good public finance management including pushing the voice of citizens to be in front and center of policy making and implementation. We thank you all our dear readers for following this weekly installment.

We have witnessed the government nearing the Abuja declaration on its allocation to health in the 2022 National Budget. Although much still need to be done around making the budget more pro-people the strides we have witnessed in 2021 are promising.

We have pushed the demand for a more inclusive economy through our various work on #FightingInequality. Furthermore, we have pressed for a debt audit to ensure that the public does not pay for debt that was accrued to benefit a few political and economic elites.

Through our participation in platforms such as the Alternative Mining Indaba, we have kept our focus on demanding improved management of natural resources in ways that benefit mining host communities and the country's fiscus.

The launch and running of the #HOWFAR campaign were a major highlight of 2021 as we drew attention and created new interest on the clarion call for transparency and accountability in the country. We were boldened by how the campaign pushed for responses from government through the #THISFAR campaign and the conversations that ensued. We have always stood for dialogue and engagement to create a culture of accountability and transparency in the way government manages public resources and the #HOWFAR campaign became that pedestal.



Our Community Resources Monitoring Agents (CORAs) and Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors (SEJAs) remained the key connectors between the policy space and the lived reality of communities in the different parts of the countries. Their stories and research have given evidence to the core issues that would have been dismissed as claims if we did not to have a human voice and human experience behind the issues. We launched the Public Resource Management Situational Report (PRMSITREP) this year and it has grown to become a cardinal publication that shares monthly information from the lenses of citizens.

The <u>publications</u> that we have churned out in 2021 have been key in generating new knowledge and reframing issues from a position of evidence. We are proud of how all our interventions have been data based and evidence driven.

Though the information remains scarce and scattered, we continued to track resources being used for COVID-19 through our <u>resources tracker</u> and we have called for continued transparency in the way that these and other public resources are allocated and utilized.

As we close 2021, we would like to thank all our partners for supporting our work. The struggle for social and economic justice continues until there is justice in the most marginalized communities, until the most vulnerable voices are heard and until there is significant change in the livelihoods of the poor. To a hopeful and a progressive 2022.

We remain resolute in the ask for "Social and economic justice and prosperity in our lifetime" We will be closed for the festive season from the 17th of December 2021 and re-opening on the 12th of January 2022. Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2022.