

# DEVELOPMENT WATCH

*Civil Society's  
National Indicative Program  
Monitoring  
and  
Advocacy*

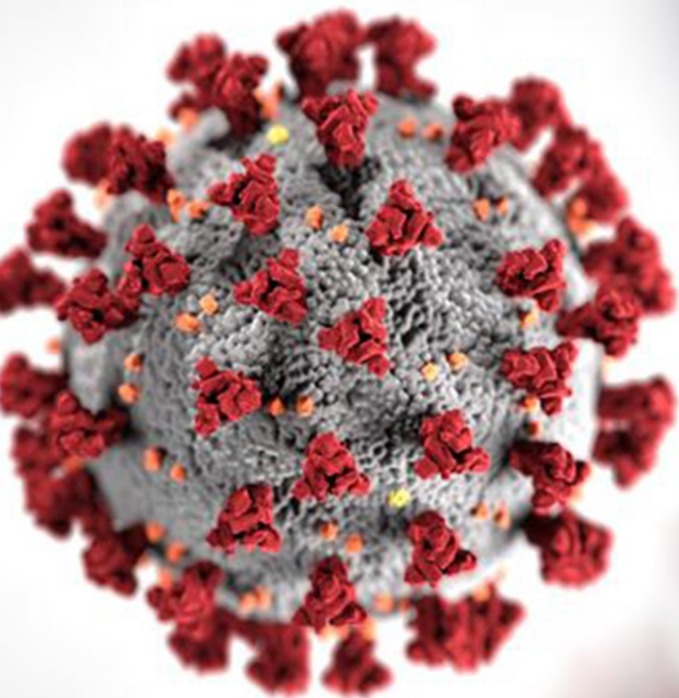
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HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS**



# COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

# EDITOR'S NOTE



**Dear Readers**

**W**e proudly present our third publication, Volume 3, Issue 3 of Development Watch, with the theme “Strengthening the Voice of NGOs”. We are slowly uncovering the year 2021 with what it has in store for us. This issue illustrates both the diversity and our capacity to address pressing issues in a timely way.

For us, we realised the importance of continuing to strengthen the work of NGOs during this difficult period and the need to share our work with different stakeholders.

The newsletter has a variety of topics to cover the needs/likes of every individual. The lead article summarises the position of Civil Society Organisations on the Universal Periodic Process that is currently ongoing. In addition, an attempt to analyse how successful government interventions during the Covid-19 pandemic have been. Other stories focus on different categories such as the economy, the environment looking at climate change among others.

We hope you take the time to read what the contents of the newsletter have to offer. There is so much to read, so much to ponder, and so much more to know because like we always say, we are truly, after all, still learning.

As NANGO, we are deeply concerned with utterances by political parties and government representatives who continue to characterise CSOs as 'detractors' a label which is far from describing the diligent work that CSOs are playing across the economic, political and social dimensions of the country. The utterances are being made in the context of rapidly closing operating space for NGOs. We therefore continue to lobby for a CSO enabling environment based on the recognition of the tremendous work that CSOs are doing towards the development of the country under very difficult conditions.

We would like to inform the partners, members and stakeholders that the Minister of Finance and Economic Development is expected to present the 2021 Mid Term Budget Review on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2021. It is imperative for CSOs, partners and citizens to follow the event as the minister provides an overview of the fiscal performance of the 2021 national budget during the first half of year and the fiscal policy proposals for the last half of the year. In the next issue, NANGO will provide a snapshot credibility analysis of the Mid Term Budget Review from a public social accountability perspective.

**NANGO Executive Director**  
**Mr Leonard Mandishara**

*Designed By*  
**Chris Katsaura**





## Reflections on the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2021

*“CSOs in Zimbabwe in pursuit of accelerating the achievement of SDGs in the decade of action for SDGs”*

The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) is the United Nations coordinated platform created to follow-up and review the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The HLPF provides states an opportunity to present their Voluntary National Review (VNR) reports since the launch of the 2030 Agenda in 2015. This year like last year the HLPF was held virtually from Tuesday, 6 July, to Thursday, 15 July 2021, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In light of the global prevailing COVID-19 context, the event was conducted virtually. The 2021 HLPF sought to discuss sustainable and resilient ways to ensure recovery from COVID-19. Further, it assisted in realigning national development efforts to realize the 2030 Agenda amid impacts of COVID-19. The theme for the 2021 HLPF was, *"Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"*.

In preparation of the 2021 HLPF, the government of Zimbabwe invited stakeholders to share inputs, on the review of the country's progress towards achieving the SDGs since the 2017 VNR presentation. Building on the SDGs implementation and co-ordination framework presented in 2017 VNR, the government of Zimbabwe had a mammoth task to strengthen the institutional and policy frameworks to support the co-ordination, implementation, monitoring and reporting of SDGs. The HLPF provides an opportunity for the country to track the progress in the implementation and results of the SDGs across the three dimensions: social, economic and environmental. It is in this vein that, CSOs under the leadership of National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (NANGO) and the

CSOs Reference Group on SDGs developed an alternative spotlight report [link](#) in view to amplify the CSOs position, perceptions, contributions and recommendations on the actions around SDGs programming.



Mr Leonard Mandishara During The Meeting

Post 2017 VNR, the government of Zimbabwe was urged to involve other stakeholders including the private sector, CSOs and other non-state actors. More importantly, it was recommended that the government and its partners should facilitate the participation of communities in the SDGs processes to enhance ownership and coordination of SDGs at the local levels. The presentation by Zimbabwe during the 2021 HLPF was hinged mainly on the National Development Strategy (NDS) I which the government launched in November 2020, to guide actions key to ensure inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, at the same time driving the country towards Vision 2030, of becoming an inclusive and empowered upper middle-income economy. However, this may remain a fallacy without sectoral plans, substantial domestic investment through improved sensitivity of the national and local budgets to become more pro-people and gender friendly.

The current progress made in strengthening partnerships with development partners and non-state actors which complement the government in SDGs implementation is commendable. However, reflecting from the just ended HLPF, the country is lagging behind in advancing key SDGs principles such as Leave No One Behind initiatives, Gender Mainstreaming and Integration, Universal Health Coverage, Domestic Financing, Positive Youth Development, Children Investment Case, Disability Inclusion among others. This therefore calls for the recognition of children, adolescents and youth as important agents of change and underline the necessity of investing in them with a view to addressing multidimensional deprivations, ending intergenerational poverty, harnessing the demographic dividend and empowering them to build a more prosperous future.

As part of efforts to accelerating SDGs agenda, a multi-stakeholder approach should be deployed to harness the comparative advantages of diverse stakeholders and demographic dividend by ensuring increased participation of youth and women in national and local development processes. For non-state actors to effectively contribute towards SDGs implementation, monitoring and reporting, government should facilitate creation of an enabling environment to ensure effective contribution of all development practitioners towards development of an inclusive, equitable and sustainable Zimbabwe.

Civic engagement is a hallmark required to ensure collective ownership and action to accelerate the progress in achieving SDGs in this decade of Action. The Voluntary Local Reviews is a necessary ingredient to ensure full domestication and localization of the SDGs in Zimbabwe. The efficacy of the Voluntary Local Reviews in developing nations, is strategic and more appropriate for CSOs to spearhead the process working closely with the government ministries and departments who are implementing agents at local levels. Drawing lessons from the Leave No One Behind during COVID19 side event during HLPF 2021, CSOs should champion in advancing community led and driven mechanisms for the country to achieve 2030 Agenda. In terms of SDGs implementation, monitoring and reporting, there is need to invest substantially in innovative approaches and initiatives for realizing the SDGs in all the three

dimensions: social, economic and environmental.

It was widely recognized that data is vital for achieving the SDGs, building trust, confidence and accountability. Investments in data collection, disaggregation, analysis and dissemination need to be prioritized. Political will should be reflected in active measures towards achieving a whole of government approach, as integrated, coordinated actions will be key to break sectoral silos and to avoid duplication, policy incoherence and ultimately achieve sustainable development.

CSOs have developed instruments for monitoring the implementation and progress the countries are making on SDGs these include but are not limited to the following, alternative country reports, score cards of performance on specific issues, and reviews from specific perspectives. To ensure that no one is left behind, there is need to ensure adequate representation, involvement and effective participation of persons with disabilities, older persons, youths, indigenous people, ethnolinguistic, children, women amongst other disenfranchised groups in the 2030 Agenda. All stakeholders need to work together to ensure all voices are heard at the national and local level and to enable a broad and inclusive process of dialogue on issues of SDGs at all levels.





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## CSOs in Zimbabwe submits the Universal Periodic Review Report



### COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UN'S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a mechanism established by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 March 2006 by Resolution 60/251. The same resolution also established the Human Rights Council (HRC) and it encourages the HRC to work with National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) in respective countries. The UPR is a country-to-country peer review mechanism of the overall human rights situation of the UN member states. It is based on objective and reliable information on fulfillment by each country of its human rights obligations and commitments made under the UN human rights architecture. Currently, 193 Countries are members of the UN Members states and Zimbabwe is a member.

The UPR provides an opportunity for all states to examine the fulfilment of human rights obligations and commitments by all 193 UN Member States and the process is done every 4/4.5 years. The process provides an opportunity for all States to declare actions undertaken to improve the human rights situations in respective countries and to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights. Zimbabwe participated in the UPR process in 2011 for the first cycle of reporting. Zimbabwe's human rights record was reviewed for the second time under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC), on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2016. As part of the preparation for the 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle reporting, Zimbabwe accepted 142 recommendations, rejected 18 and referred 100 recommendations to improve on its human rights situation and is due for review during the 40th session of the Human Rights Council scheduled for 2022.

As a process of review, each member state is expected to produce at least three reports thus the (i) National Report drafted by the State; (ii) the UN country team (UNCT) report and (iii) the CSO Stakeholder submissions provided by NGOs and/or National Human Rights Institutions. Currently, the government of Zimbabwe is in the process of consulting stakeholders to come up with a National Report. The process of engaging CSOs and coming up with a report was spearheaded by a team of experts that formed a technical team that came up with the report that was submitted to HRC on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2021. The Technical team was comprised of the National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (NANGO), Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe (WCOZ), with financial assistance from UNWomen, . The submitted CSO stakeholder report to HRC forms part of the basis for the review in January 2022.

CSOs have been participating in the UPR process since its inception under the coordination and technical expertise from NANGO, ZLHR, NGO Forum and recently WCOZ. For this 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle review, a total of 68 CSOs who have been monitoring the progress on implementation of the recommendations from the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle, contributed and made their input in the CSO Stakeholder UPR report. It was however observed that, in spite of the progress made in the implementation of some of the recommendations from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle, there were many human rights issues of concern during the period under review. In 2018, harmonized elections were held on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Though the elections were considered peaceful, the independent



observer missions issued several recommendations for electoral reforms. To date, most of the reforms still remain outstanding and the country is preparing for 2023 elections.



*Mrs Gorretti Giving her Presentation*

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2018, some Zimbabweans embarked on public protests in demand of election results that were taking long to be published. In response, the Zimbabwean security agents used excessive force resulting in the death of six people from shootings, and several people were injured. A Commission of inquiry was engaged to look into the matter and to-date, their recommendations remain unimplemented. In January 2019, the government increased fuel prices that lead to protests by citizens. In response, the police and army responded with force and some people were arrested. In an endeavor to contain the spread of Corona Virus, government of Zimbabwe introduced lockdown measures in March 2020. The selective partisan and violent enforcement of measures, and conditions imposed on the exercise of rights and freedoms, unduly limited enjoyment of human rights. Lastly, government continue to introduce restrictive laws such as the Criminal Law (Codification and reform) Act. These laws have a negative bearing on the operations of CSOs particularly those programing in human rights and governance issues.

Due to the mandatory and inclusive nature of the UPR mechanism, the process acts not only as a monitoring mechanism, but also an accountability mechanism, which makes it imperative for civil society to engage with it

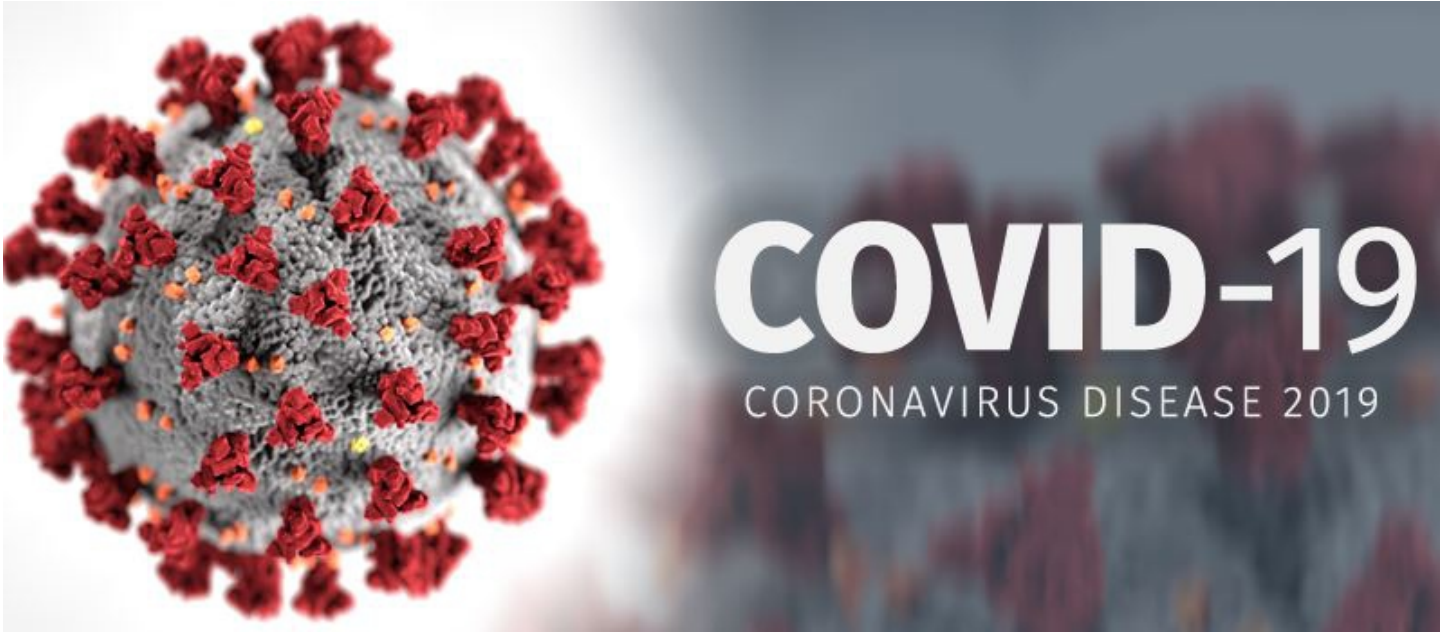
holistically. CSOs should build a reciprocal relationship with the government specifically on their operating environment. CSOs need to identify challenges they are facing in their operating spaces and come up with strategies to lobby with appropriate ministries so as to create a conducive operating space. This could be done through the use of Steering Committees and Parliamentary Portfolio Committees as well as relevant government institutions. In implementation of the accepted recommendations, CSOs should put together an advocacy package that involves the strategies of making government to be part of it. Lastly, CSOs should meet regularly to review and update on the implementation of the recommendation rather than to wait for the next date of review.

#### UPR Consultations Meeting Photos

*Photo Credit: Chris Katsaura*



## Transparency and accountability during Covid-19 period



The Covid-19 pandemic has ravaged the world since December 2019 and still lingers on with Zimbabwe being no exception. Zimbabwe has experienced the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave and is currently under level 4 lockdown as the new delta variants are wreaking havoc with the country recording 85732 cases, 55714 recoveries, and 2697 deaths as of 19 July 2021.

The pandemic exposed the health systems of most countries and led to a health crisis. However, the pandemic did not only expose the poor health systems but the far-reaching consequences to the social and economic sectors the world over. For Zimbabwe, if there is no improvement in the management of the pandemic the country can implode. The lockdown measures such as social distancing have fuelled inequalities within the health, education, and informal sectors without any shock absorbers. It became business unusual and the worrying digital divide condemned the poor to increased poverty levels e.g., no virtual working, no in-house entertainment, no food to stock, no e-learning with public health services being a no-go area in Zimbabwe. This has also been exacerbated by a citizenry that tries to deny the effects of the pandemic with most taking it as a political stunt.

The responses to the pandemic were mixed with different responses some being robust whilst at the same time showing the other side where there was especially poor management of public resources. The country has a poor record of managing public funds as highlighted in the previous Auditor General's reports. This was even clear even before the release of the AG report where we saw the dismissal of the Minister of Health, Obadiah Moyo, for abuse of funds.

The government unveiled an 18 billion Zimbabwe Dollar stimulus package in May 2020 which was meant to scale up production in all the sectors of the economy in response to the adverse effects of the covid-19 pandemic. The package was also meant to cushion small-scale industries, improve health facilities, reduce poverty and hardships, and assist vulnerable members of society. However, the package was just an imposition with no consultations of stakeholders and was not informed by research. This raises a lot of questions as to how the government reached the criterion to allocate funds which should have been ascertained by the anticipated impacts on each sector.



Anecdotal evidence have shown that very few individuals have received the Ministry of Public Service and Social Welfare COVID-19 social safety net support and it makes one wonder as to what happened to the funds that were supposed to cushion the communities. So far only funds from NGOs have been received. The sad part is that lists of people to benefit from the programme were compiled but so far, no individual has professed to receive any money.

The stimulus package was broken down as follows: agriculture \$6.08 billion, working capital fund \$3.02 billion, mining sector \$1 billion, SMEs \$500 million, arts sector \$20 million, health sector \$1 billion, food grant \$2.40 billion, broad relief measures \$1.50 billion and liquidity release from statutory reserves \$2 billion.

More so, there are no clear accountability systems considering that it was announced at a time when parliament was not meeting. Moreover, the package was also announced without the approval of parliament raising a lot of eyebrows from different corners of the country. This makes the situation worse given that corruption has become endemic

in the country. With its ranking of 158/180 on the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index, it means that public trust in the use of public resources is affected. The government also realised this through the National Development Strategy I (NDSI) under the Governance Pillar where it has highlighted the need to deal with corruption in the country. However, if there is no political will to deal with corruption public trust will remain very low.

The government of Zimbabwe needs a robust transparency and accountability mechanism to help in the management and use of covid-19 resources as this has been met with criticism from all corners of the country. Section 298 of the Zimbabwe Constitution speaks on the principles of public finance management and if the government is to follow this it will go a long way in bringing back that confidence and trust that has been lost. The government also needs to ensure that it implements well the NDSI which is a very ambitious plan founded on the principles of Integrated Results-Based Management (IRBM).





## Climate change manifesting itself .... with bleak projections for Africa.

Just this past week, the international media was awash with news highlighting the trail of destruction caused by floods which swept Hagen, a city in Western Germany. The freaky incident took place in the aftermath of the burst to the banks of a nearby water body (Volme river, claiming hundreds of human lives, while searches for other missing persons are ongoing).

And to all this reportage was a revealing comment by one German environmental official who remarked with the following quote "Something like this, with this intensity, is completely unusual in summer.". Except that in the age of climate crisis, unusual is the new usual.

The incident is just the tip of the iceberg regarding the reality of the dire consequences of Climate Change to humans if allowed to manifest itself freely without any corresponding action to nip it in the bud. In order for us to gain a better appreciation of climate change, below are the cause-effect factors.

The fifth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a grouping of thousands of scientists from across the world, under the coordination of the United Nations, produces periodic assessing global knowledge and evidence about climate change in 2014 highlighted that human activities were the leading causes for excessive greenhouse gases building up in the atmosphere, resulting in the planet heating up too much, an effect known as global warming. The gases that trap the heat are called greenhouse gases. When greenhouse gases become trapped in the atmosphere and cause global warming, heating of the atmosphere leads to many other changes, including the melting of ice and snow on mountains and at the north and south poles. As the ice melts, the extra water causes sea levels to rise. Global warming also affects ocean and wind currents, leading to changes in rainfall patterns and increases in extreme weather events, including storms, floods, fires and droughts.

For Africa projections by IPCC are that

the continent will be the worst affected by climate change mainly because of its global position, its vulnerable populations and its poor land-use practices. However, it is important to understand that many of Africa's problems result from factors other than climate change. Report notes that in comparison to the increasingly severe stresses on future water resources posed by population growth, urbanization, agricultural growth and land-use change, climate change will have a modest effect overall. This then reinforces the idea that Africa needs to address resource management issues urgently in preparation not just for climate change but also for a generally hazardous future.

The IPCC predicts that average temperatures across most of Africa will increase more quickly than the global average and by the end of the century, much of Africa could see temperature increases of between 3 and 6°C. Rainfall is likely to reduce over North Africa and the south-western parts of southern Africa by the end of the 21st century.

**Africa in the future as a result of climate change. Several IPCC reports the data from several recent reports, the major risks for Africa are seen as:**

- A reduction in annual rainfall and groundwater recharge, except in East Africa where rainfall will increase.



- A shift in rainy seasons and more frequent dry periods
  - More frequent climate hazards such as droughts, heat waves, wildfires, storms, intense rain and floods, causing damage to natural systems, crops, transport networks and human settlements
  - Threats to soil fertility from erosion and increased temperature
  - Rising sea levels threatening coastal communities
  - Accelerated expansion of deserts, especially in Namibia and Botswana and into southern Zimbabwe
  - Increase in ocean acidity, resulting in degradation of coral reefs and damage to fisheries
  - Reduced quantity and quality of water available for domestic and economic activities
  - Faster growth of dry and desert areas and heat and water stress, and shortened growing seasons, leading to declines in crop yields
  - Shifts in ecosystems, with the reduction of grassland for grazing animals
  - Accelerated species extinction and destruction of wildlife habitats, depleting important ecosystem services such as the provision of fertile soil and clean water, and damaging tourism.
  - Increases in pest infestations and diseases of crops and livestock
  - Increases in malnutrition and human diseases
  - An upsurge in migration and displacement of human populations due to extreme events such as drought, floods, and rising sea levels as well as social conflicts as people begin to compete for dwindling resources as evidenced with African countries like Nigeria, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eswatini among a host of others.
- Forward thinking the solution is underpinned on adaptation, “the process through which societies increase their ability to cope with an uncertain future, which involves taking appropriate action and making the adjustments and changes to reduce the negative impacts of climate change “United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 2007”.
- Adaptation should factor in diversity. Starting with Individuals, households, communities, civil society, the private sector and local and national government departments all contributing. Studies on adaptation to climate change make the point that each community has different levels of vulnerability and resilience and each situation is different. Therefore, a blanket, top-down approach is not going to be successful.
- Building on indigenous knowledge systems recognising that local people have a wealth of knowledge of how to cope with adversity, and building on this, can help make adaptation strategies more locally appropriate.
- It's pleasing to note that while there have been several government and NGO adaptation projects initiated in Zimbabwe during the past decades, with notable successes, argument has often been raised on the duration of the projects as being too short for them to be sustainable and that only benefit very few communities.
- However, important lessons have been learnt from these initiatives. One is that successful adaptation strategies need to come from the community, or bottom-up, while being supported by international and national coordination policies, strategies and legislation namely United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 13 Climate Action), African Union's Agenda 2063, SADC 2050 and National Development Strategy (NDSI 2021-2025) with respect to Zimbabwe.
- Given all these indicators the time to write the climate history book from an African perspective is now, if we want the future to be kind.

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# The “Church” addressing Gender-Based Violence



among the major perpetrators of this scourge. Instead of serving God's people with love and giving hope to the hopeless, the religious sector has become the source of many forms of abuse.

Gender-based violence (GBV) is violence that is directed at an individual based on his or her biological sex OR gender identity. It includes physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, and psychological abuse, threats, coercion, and economic or educational deprivation, whether occurring in public or private life. GBV includes domestic abuse, sexual assault, incest, human trafficking, and other forms of abuse, most often directed towards females.

The church also affects the social system of women, as it leads to misrepresentation and underrepresentation of women. Male leaders may not address the concerns of the women as they are, which segregate women. This also affects other environments, as women will be conditioned to accept any form of abuse thinking that is the way things are supposed to be.

Furthermore, women are also suppressed by the church system through the manual being used, which is the bible. The Bible is treated as a sacred book, which every member should adhere to and act as it instructs for one to get a reward in the afterlife. Selective reading of biblical passages lubricates the process through oppressing and manipulating women in some instances. Unfortunately, many women have internalised patriarchal readings of passages that will be presented or preached by their leaders. This thereby reduces the position of women from full members to passive people who should obey what has been laid before them to attain a positive reward in the future. Despite women being the majority in the church, several church traditions, including wrong interpretation of some biblical passages, continue to make women subordinate to their male counterparts.

Our constitution guarantees freedom to practice any religion that one chooses and because of this freedom for religions are represented in the ethnic and regional diversity of our democracy. Statistics estimate that over 85% of Zimbabweans are Christians. Churches have become a powerful cultural force. Churches in Zimbabwe have played a pivotal role in influencing people's day-to-day lives.

There are other sections within the faith based institutions, who have been alleged to through various media that is, chief among them being social media, highlighting that certain churches, and church leaders being accused of rape, manipulation, malpractices, theft, and abuse of vulnerable women who fail to defend themselves against these abuses. Besides being a fundamental violation of human rights, violence against women represents one of the most social security challenges and is a major factor contributing to poverty; thus, reducing violence against women is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in particular goals number 1, 3, 5, 10 and 16. Violations against women and children's rights come against the backdrop of the government of Zimbabwe having enacted the Domestic Violence Act [Chapter 5:16] in 2007, initially viewed as the most progressive law aimed at protecting women against gender based violence.

People are in bondage, but it does not seem that those who trouble them are bearing the judgement of doing so. Gender-Based Violence is one of the major social injustice issues in our country and it seems religious leaders are



However, women in Zimbabwe have begun a movement to acknowledge and scream for such false behaviour. Women's church participation, which is not yet fully established, has increased and is recognized in most religious disciplines. Programmes such as the SASA Faith programme seek to use churches in the fight against gender-based violence.

Some faith-based organisations such as the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, play a pivotal role in addressing the needs of women, helping them to address the gap of women and gender in Zimbabwe. The rise of African women theologians since the early 1990s, following the formation of the Circle of Concerned African Women, also raised

awareness on the importance of women, showing how they were side-lined and voicing up for their inclusion in all aspects of the religious set-up. This would help in peacebuilding and recognising their worth, and participation of their needs would help in attaining sustainable peace since all actors would have been included.

GBV happens in every corner of the country and it happens in church families. Church leadership can equip themselves to respond with wisdom and skill when they become aware of GBV in their church or community.

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## Guideline to register as a Non-Governmental Organization Private Voluntary Organization

Non –Governmental Organizations in Zimbabwe are registered in terms of the Private Voluntary Organization Act (PVO ACT), with the Department of Social Welfare under the Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social Welfare. Some are registered under the Trust Deeds under the Ministry of Justice Legal and Parliamentary Affairs. Yet others are registered as Common Law Univesitus. For easy reference for the registration process, NANGO has produced the following guideline for organizations, which want to register as a Non-Governmental Organization. We hope that the following guidelines will provide clearer information on the registration process for the PVO. In the next issue we will look at the registration as a Trust.

To register as a Private Voluntary Organization the following steps must be taken: When applying for registrations as a PVO bring the following with you:

- ✓ A draft constitution
- ✓ Detailed CVs of all Board Members (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary)
- ✓ Legal Notice advertised in any of the national papers (see below)

### Step by Step:

1. Application for registration as a PVO should be made through a District Social Welfare Office (DSWO)
2. A representative from the organization must, personally, go to the local DSWO and present the application for registration as a PVO.
3. The organization should also request a checklist format, to ensure that the constitution of the organization includes all the required clauses.
4. Any further assistance in respect of the construction of a constitution for a PVO should be obtained from a DSWO.
5. They should also advertise a legal notice in any national/regional paper that it intends to be registered as a PVO. The advert should be done after confirmation by the DSWO, that the applicant's constitution is in line with that requirements of a Private Voluntary Organization.

**Submission:**

1. After studying a draft copy of the constitution, DSWO will advise the applicant accordingly. If the draft is fine, the DSWO will request for 18 copies.
2. If not drafted properly, s/he will advise the applicant on the relevant amendments and the checklist format will be used as a guide. Following:
  - The Application Form (one copy only)
  - Constitution (18 copies)
  - Detailed CVs of all Board members (4 copies)
3. The local DSWO will acknowledge receiving the application and will open a pending file and give the applicant a reference number.
4. The local DSWO will then submit the application to the Provincial Social Welfare Office (PSWO), which will check the application for abnormalities.
5. In case of discrepancies, the PSWO will advise the DSWO, which will contact the applicant.
6. In case of no discrepancies, the PVO will submit the full application to the registrar of PVOs.

**Registration Process:**

1. The decision to register all PVOs lies with the relevant Private Voluntary Organization Board.
2. The Board consists of the following nine representatives:
  - Nine representatives from the nine provinces
  - A legal advisor from the Ministry of Justice
  - A representative from the Ministry of Health
  - A representative from the Ministry of Finance
  - A representative from the Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social Welfare
  - A representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  - A representative from the Ministry responsible for cooperatives
  - Five (5) representatives from the umbrella body.

NB: The successful applicant will receive the information through the local DSWO. The applicant will receive a certificate of registration.

**Obligation:**

1. A registered PVO has an obligation to:
  - Yearly submit Audited Accounts, (by a registered public auditor)
  - Yearly submit an Annual Report of activities
2. If the PVO fails to do so, the registrar of PVOs can de-register the PVO, if the organization is in arrears 3 years and above.

NB: Many organizations engage lawyers and business consultants to produce the constitution. Often an application is rejected because the constitution is irrelevant or too commercial to be registered as a PVO. DSWO advises applicants to consult with a social worker, who will advise on constitutional issues.

Should you have any problem or further questions on how to register as a PVO, please contact The Registrar of PVOs Compensation House Corner 4th street/ Central Avenue Box CY 429 Causeway Harare PHONE: 04-703711/13 FAX: 04-790543/703714 OR ANY District Social Welfare Office nearest you.

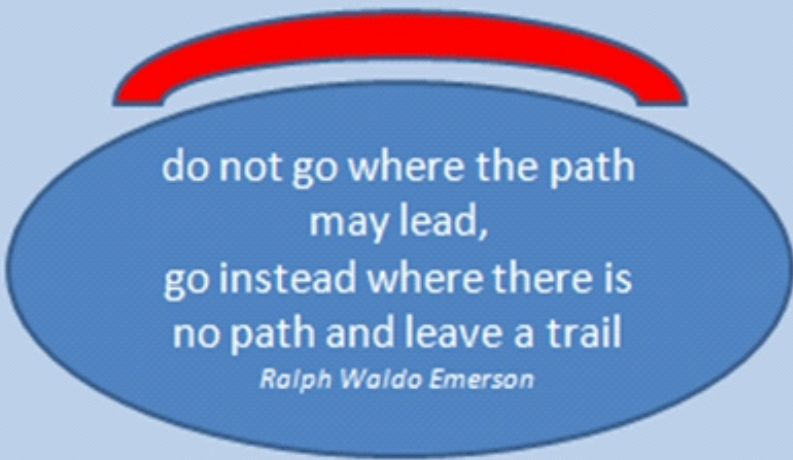




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OFFICIAL SIDE EVENT

## LEAVE NO WOMEN BEHIND DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

9<sup>th</sup> July, 2021  
FRIDAY

7.30 am – 9.00 am Eastern Time  
(11.30 am – 1.00 pm GMT)

RELEASE OF THE GLOBAL REPORT

COVID-19: Impact on women with multiple discrimination

SPEAKERS

**zoom**  
Registration link:  
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**CHIEF GUEST**  
**Dr. Edmos Mthethwa**  
Chief Director, Social Development and Disability Affairs, Government of Zimbabwe

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**Mr. Halifa Sallah**  
Honourable Member of National Assembly, Gambia

**MODERATION**  
**Mr Leonard Mandishara**  
GCAP Global Council member, Zimbabwe

How women and girls facing multiple discrimination are impacted by COVID-19 - A global overview  
Sylvia Beales Gelber, author of LNWB Report

Impact of COVID-19 on the communities discriminated based on work and descent (DWD)  
Beena Pallical, Gfod

COVID-19 and Women with disabilities in Africa  
Nina Okoroafor, Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations

Condition of women with multiple discrimination in Latin America  
Verónica Serafini, Latindadd

Condition of women headed households during the pandemic  
Zia-Ur Rehman, Awaz Foundation

Challenges for Indigenous Women in Asia amidst COVID-19  
Kakay Tolentino, AIPP/NIWA

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the health of marginalized women in Japan  
Masaki Inaba, Japan CSO Network for Global Health

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All are most welcome to attend the event. For any query, please write to us at [pradeep.baisakh@gcap.global](mailto:pradeep.baisakh@gcap.global) or call Pradeep Baisakh + 91 8447459549  
Translation is available in English, French, Spanish and Hindi languages.

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