

# In case you missed it

NANGO presents a monthly magazine to update you on developmental issues you may have missed during the course of the previous month.



★ *Reviewing the course of past events* ★

# #ICYMI

## Hospital conducts post-mortem examination after ZLHR's intervention

An independent pathologist on Friday 12 April 2019 conducted a post-mortem examination on the body of Witness Mashereni, who died last month under mysterious circumstances.

The Mashereni family lawyers successfully petitioned the High Court to grant them access to conduct the autopsy to ascertain cause of death.

The deceased's father Christopher Mashereni, engaged the services of Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, who through the family lawyer Fiona Iliff filed an urgent chamber application in the High Court on Tuesday 9 April 2019 seeking an order allowing authorisation of an independent pathologist to carry out the post-mortem examination on the body of the deceased person.

Witness died some few hours after being released from Harare Remand Prison, where he was detained after he was arrested on Thursday 14 February 2019 for alleged criminal trespassing. For close to three weeks after his



death, no post-mortem examination had been conducted to determine the cause of his death.

Zimbabwean hospital authorities stated that they had no pathologists available to carry out the autopsy.

While the Mashereni family engaged an independent pathologist to carry out the post-mortem, authorities at Chitungwiza Central Hospital failed to provide authorisation for the pathologist to carry out the post-mortem at the state-run hospital or alternatively at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals.

In her court application, Iliff argued that the post-mortem examination needs to be carried out urgently because Witness's body was decomposing such that the cause of death would be difficult to determine and his family which was mourning for the loss of their relative was eager to bury him.

# ZESN conducts research on delimitation of constituency boundaries

## Discussions

ZESN shared with CSO results of a research that was conducted in March 2019. The purpose of the research was to inform stakeholders and citizens on the importance of conducting a delimitation that is perceived as embedding the principles of transparency, representativeness and inclusivity. The findings from the research will be used for advocacy and to promote dialogue amongst the various stakeholders such as Zimbabwe Electoral Commission and Parliament among others. Findings will be disseminated to key stakeholders that include Parliament, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, political parties, civil society and the media. The report will also be used for voter and civic education, to educate and inform citizens on delimitation processes.

The last delimitation process was done in 2007. The 2013 Constitution speaks of 210 constituencies hence the electoral boundaries are critical. The previous challenges to the delimitation process are:

1. Inadequate time
2. Lack of transparency
3. Political manipulation
4. Gerrymandering
5. Lack of stakeholder consultation

Not open to scrutiny

Lack of independence of the Delimitation Commission

2

- What are the patterns of delimitation outside Zimbabwe?

In other countries appointment of the delimitation board is done by the President in an open and transparent manner. The process of delimitation itself involves people with technical skills such as Statisticians, GIS

- To what extent do you believe that these processes are independent, especially when it comes to delimitation?

We are in the process of building trust through working together

- What is the government position with regards to delimitation?

ZEC has the mandate to carry out the process; however timing is the biggest worry.

- At what stage are people's views taken into account?

After the process of delimitation people's views are taken into account and after the report has been presented to parliament.

- How were women's views taken in the research? Women participated freely and their views were taken seriously

- How do you account for culture, since you used quantitative research?

We did not capture culture in the research

- What are the selection criteria for enumeration areas?

We used sampling

- How did you engage respondents with disability?

We got assistance from the community.

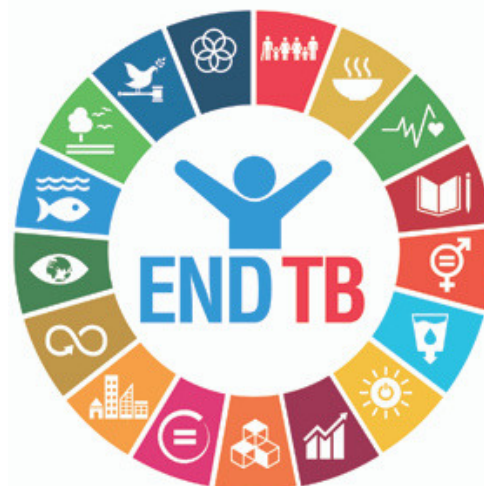
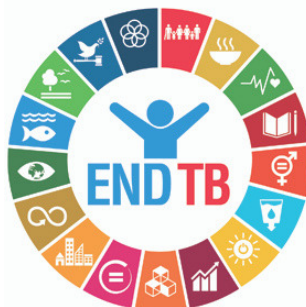
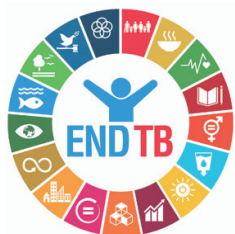
## Fight TB, obey the rules of health



Hope Tariro Trust held an awareness raising gala to sensitise ward 10 of Masvingo District on Tuberculosis (TB). Mining is the core economic activity in the area, thus making miners vulnerable to TB infections. The theme for the gala was “Fight TB, obey the rules of health”. The theme inspires people to take necessary preventive measures in order to stop the spread of TB and for those who are already infected to adhere to treatment. Hope Tariro Trust’s field officers facilitated the awareness raising campaign on TB. Prior to the gala, the field officers had been trained by Mr Charamba, the Ministry of Health and Child Care Masvingo District TB Coordinator.

Both old and young people came to Manyama Shopping Centre to attend the gala. Topics covered included the definition of TB, how it is spread, how it can be prevented and its treatment. Facilitators emphasised the possibility of patients TB patients to be cured of the disease if they adhere to TB drugs as prescribed by health care professionals.

The event was fun-filled with dance competitions and prizes for community members that exhibited knowledge of TB.



# #ICYMI

#WaterFootPrint

#UmzilaWamanzi

#NkwalaWevula

#TsimbaDzemvura

Forty wards have been covered so far under the #WaterFootPrint campaign. The wards include 19 wards in Harare and 21 wards in Chitungwiza. The intention is to cover remaining wards in Harare, move to complete Chitungwiza and to Norton.



Issues that are coming from communities so far are:

- 1) There is no tap water especially due to current water rationing and effects of the foreign currency crisis on water treatment chemicals.
  - 2) There are serious billing inaccuracies. Water bills remain the same (with charges on consumption) even where tap water is not available, even where rationing has reduced availability of water to as low 100 megalitres per day, where payments have been made and where water meters have been removed.
  - 3) Arbitrary water disconnections and removal of water meters in disregard of the law continues in many community. Some city council officers allegedly solicit for bribes when disconnecting water. This creates an avenue for officers to fleece residents.
  - 4) Most residential areas have burst sewer pipes, contaminated boreholes and conflicts stemming from management of boreholes.
  - 5) Poor drainage systems
  - 6) Wetlands depletion.
  - 7) Poor urban planning and disregard of the law on allocation of houses.
  - 8) Malfunctioning and broken down prepaid water meters on areas where pilot project was done.
  - 9) Non-collection of refuse.
- CWA will engage the ward leadership to resolve some of the challenges facing citizens.



# Explaining budget deviation

## A budget credibility snapshot

April 2019

The study of budget credibility examines the extent, nature, causes and consequences of deviations from approved budgets. In this series, part of the International Budget Partnership's Assessing Budget Credibility Project, 24 civil society partners in 23 countries probed a specific area in which execution of the national budget repeatedly diverged from the approved plan to learn whether adequate reasons were provided for the deviation. The broader synthesis report on these findings can be found on the IBP website.

### Zimbabwe: Basic education

In 2001, the Government of Zimbabwe launched the Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) program with the aim of assisting orphans and vulnerable children to access basic education at primary and secondary level. However, in recent years, BEAM has served far less children than the number who are eligible. According to a report released in 2014, 380,000 of 976,000 primary and secondary school students who needed the program's support in 2012 did not receive it.

### Budget credibility challenge

From 2012 – 2014, BEAM was under-executed by more than 30 percent, impacting the number of children who could be served by the program. From 2012 to 2015, enrollment in primary education fell and dropout rates for primary and secondary schools increased; the percentage of children who dropped out of secondary school during this period rose from about 1 to 4 percent. When the budget execution rate increased in 2015, the 2016 enrollment figures increased as well, and the dropout rate stabilized, suggesting a possible relationship between budget execution and enrollment.

### Execution of Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) Program, 2012-2016

Year	Approved budget (USD)	Final expenditure (USD)	Execution Rate
2012	15,000,000	6,800,000	45%
2013	1,500,000	1,000,000	67%
2014	15,000,000	7,000,000	47%
2015	7,000,000	8,200,000	117%
2016	15,255,000	15,388,000	101%

Source: Audit General, World Bank, and National Budget Statements

## Were explanations for the deviations found in government reports?

Yes. Reasons were found in the following reports:

- National Budget Statement: this document provides general reasons for why the aggregate national budget was over-spent. For example, the 2013 and 2016 statements explained that the budget was over-spent to pay for unplanned food aid following droughts.
- Audit General Report: the 2015 audit report indicated that funds meant for BEAM's administrative costs were diverted to buy food hampers for the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare's staff.
- Special Audit Report for the management of BEAM (2014): found that poor execution was caused by delays at the school and community level with meeting program requirements, as well as the fact that communities were notified too late about the funds available.
- In addition to the above, legislative oversight reports, independent evaluation reports, and sector policy documents were consulted, but contained no reasons to explain the budget deviations.

## Did the government agree to be interviewed to explain further?

Yes. Interviews were conducted with the following ministries:

- Ministry of Finance and Economic Development: indicated that the under-execution in the overall budget in 2012-2014 was due to diversion of funds to cover food aid costs following the 2012-2013 drought and payments for increased salaries and bonuses for civil servants. The 2013 referendum and 2015 elections also reduced the amount of revenue available for certain government programs, including those like BEAM, during 2013 to 2015.
- The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare: faulted the Ministry of Finance for delays and reductions in the disbursement of funds.

## Were the reasons provided by government adequate?

The reasons provided by the documents do not adequately explain the budget deviations in BEAM during 2012 to 2016. The National Budget Statements contain general explanations for why the aggregate budget was over-spent, and it is unclear whether these reasons affected BEAM's execution. The Audit General Reports do not consistently provide explanations and the reason found in the 2015 report is only partial. The fact that funds were shifted to purchase hampers does not explain why BEAM's budget was over-spent by 17 percent. The 2014 special audit report does not specify a mechanism that explains why there were delays at the local level or why the communities were notified late. As with the National Budget Statement, the reasons provided via interviews were general in nature and did not necessarily fully explain what was at play.

This summary is excerpted from research conducted by the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO), a non-partisan, non-profit coordinating body of NGOs in Zimbabwe. The original report is available here: [bit.ly/BudgetCredibilityReports](http://bit.ly/BudgetCredibilityReports). For more information on the Assessing Budget Credibility project, visit [internationalbudget.org/budget-credibility](http://internationalbudget.org/budget-credibility).

# RBZ is complicit in Harare's water problems

Community Water Alliance accessed documents that reflect how much foreign currency has been availed towards water delivery annually by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ). The documents in possession of Community Water Alliance have demonstrated that the quality and quantity of potable water in Harare is greatly affected by availability of foreign currency needed for the purchase of water treatment chemicals.

In 2017 the RBZ availed US\$12 886 268 for the whole year. The required amount for 2017 was approximately US\$ 36 million. The amount availed by the RBZ is a mere third of the required amount. Because of this allocation, the quality of potable water in Harare which is expected to be guided by World Health Organization Guidelines fell from 88.4% in 2016 to 86.5% in 2017. City of Harare supplies water to Chitungwiza Municipality, Norton Town Council, Ruwa Local Board, Epworth Local Board and all the suburbs in Harare including the new ones in Mashonaland West and Central. The implications of the paltry allocation of foreign currency on water delivery in Harare do not only affect supply but also have huge bearing on the quality of potable water for consumption by citizens.

Between 2017 and 2018, cholera and typhoid outbreaks were rife, sanitation and water delivery in Zimbabwe was very poor. Community Water Alliance believes that the current discussions on

water delivery in Harare and Zimbabwe at large should not forget the implications of paltry allocation of foreign currency on sufficiency and portability of water.

The current short supply of foreign currency in Harare has forced the local authority to reduce daily water production from 420 megalitres per day to less than 100 megalitres per day. The daily water demand in Harare ranges from 800 to 1200 megalitres. 62% of water produced daily by City of Harare is lost through leakages, illegal connections and commercial losses.

The RBZ is therefore complicit in the challenges of water delivery in Harare. Community Water Alliance therefore calls for progressive engagement between residents and the RBZ so that priority is given to water treatment chemicals.

Community Water Alliance has vowed not be silent about issues that matter. The issue of the right to safe and portable water remains at the core of these.



An official from Community Water Alliance holds a bottle containing water supplied by City of Harare



# Access to affordable education

The parliamentary portfolio committee on Primary and Secondary Education held a public consultation on the Education Amendment Bill in Mutare on the 4th of April 2019. The main thrust of the consultation was to get public perceptions on the amendment of the Education Bill in Zimbabwe before it is enacted. Most of the stakeholders suggested that basic education should be free and state funded as already enshrined in the Constitution of Zimbabwe while pregnant girls should be allowed to continue with their studies. If implemented well, this will improve the literacy rate for young girls from disadvantaged communities.

Cabinet approved the Education Amendment Bill in February and it was gazetted in the same month. The purpose of the Bill is to ensure the right to a basic state-funded education, including adult basic education, the right to equality and non-discrimination and the right to language and culture. Free basic education was stopped during the early 1990's at the height of Government's Economic Structural Adjustment Programme that witnessed massive reduction of funding for social services. Attendees at the meeting suggested that A' level should also be included in the state funded education and clause 6.9a should be amended to "no child should be subjected to corporal punishment". There is need to harmonise the curriculum from ECD to tertiary level education to define clear lines of career path. Sign language should be included in the curriculum even at tertiary level. Infrastructure and learning materials should be accessible to people with disabilities. There is need for resource units for students with disabilities and universalism so that services can be available nationwide and also to the lowest communities. The Portfolio Committee Chairperson, Hon Priscilla Misihairambwi-Mushonga chaired the consultation held in Mutare at Queens Hall.



# Moving towards 2023

Nations are founded on consensus building. Since time immemorial, in any polity, consensus is a by-product of dialogue.

At the recently held NANGO Eastern Region Membership meeting, Partnership for Development Initiative Trust (PDIT) presented a paper on the role that civil society can play pre and post elections.

Mr Nyamanhindi from PDIT defined civic society as a space where citizens engage and mentioned that elections are a key topic under which citizens engage. He took the members through the elections cycle; namely pre-election, election and post-election.

He said it is prudent not to take elections as an event. Community can be informed of the calibre of people they put in office and what previous office bearers have done through IEC materials, non-partisan voter education, on-going dialogue, use of already existing platforms and structures to educate the electorate, registration documents (birth certificates and IDs) mainstreaming, capacity building, CSOs voter education, radio broadcast, community dialogues and engagement with office bearers.

Despite political differences, Zimbabwe must locate broader socio-economic building aspirations and in the midst of conflicting points of political interest, Zimbabwe should recognise the essence of nationhood.





## Spotlighting gender equality and women's empowerment

The European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) are embarking on a new, global, multi-year initiative focused on eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) - the Spotlight Initiative- Pillar 6. The Initiative is so named as it brings focused attention to this issue, moving it into the spotlight and placing it at the centre of efforts to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Spotlight Initiative was started in Asia to end violence against women and girls. In 2018, it was developed for Africa and currently it covers 8 countries including Mali, Uganda, Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe, East and West Africa. An initial investment in the order of EUR 500 million will be made, with the EU as the main contributor. Other donors and partners will be invited to join the Initiative to broaden its reach and scope. The modality for the delivery will be a UN multi-stakeholder trust fund, administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, with the support of core agencies UNDP, UNFPA and UN Women, and overseen by the Executive Office of the UN Secretary- General.

The focus areas are women's participation in parliament, public sector, decision making processes at all levels, women's empowerment (economically), women and girls to live a life free from violence and peace and security and humanitarian action. The program's priorities are governance and national planning to fully reflect accountability for gender equality and comprehensive and dynamic set of global norms, policies and standards on gender equality and women's empowerment. In Zimbabwe coverage will be at a national and community level. At community level, implementation will be done based on identified hotspots based on reviewed and relevant evidence on SGBV and HP, previously excluded and marginalised communities and engagement in communities where good practices are emerging and need to be strengthened and complemented for a comprehensive response. Spotlight is currently active in Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland West, Matebeleland South, Manicaland, Epworth and Hopely. Spotlight Intervention Pillars are legislative and policy frameworks, institutional strengthening, prevention and social norms, delivery of quality essential services, data availability and capacities and supporting the women's movement.



**NANGO**  
National Association  
Of Non-Governmental  
Organisation

**Publisher**  
National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO)

**Head Office:**  
15 Bodle Road, Eastlea, Harare.

**Email address:**  
info.nangozim@gmail.com

**Website**  
www.nangozim.org

© NANGO