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

- Advocacy
- Research
- Civic spaces
- Enabling environment
- Capacity building
- Meaningful participation
- Policy dialogues
During Global Money Week, 25 to 29 March 2019, Global Foundation of Public speakers oriented 1050 young entrepreneurs on the need to engage and understand Zimbabwe’s Transitional Stabilisation Programme and how to align their businesses to this national strategy. Young entrepreneurs were educated on the urgent need for financial literacy and knowledge of formal financial systems. Numerous captivating events brought together influential civil society, private and public sector leaders to share their investment, growth and financial management strategies in the prevailing economic environment. The events included a Millennials Business Breakfast, Founders Mastermind Luncheon and Pioneer Fund: Peace building cocktail.

Below from left: Valarie Mandega, Rotaract President, Ntandoyenkosi Khumalo, Director of Global Foundation of Public Speaking, Leonard Mandishara, NANGO Executive Director, and Amy Wade the Director of Kunzwana Women's Association discussing survival of youth led organisations in a donor fatigued environment.
Relief
for victims of Cyclone Idai
Cyclone Idai hit parts of Zimbabwe with heavy rains and strong winds. Lives were lost, property destroyed and homes washed away in Chimanimani, Buhera, Chipinge, Gutu, Bikita, Zaka, Chiredzi and Masvingo. Citizens across the country came together and donated food, clothing and toiletries while others volunteered their services to distraught survivors. NANGO drop in centres in the country’s five regional offices received donations from well wishers and these were distributed in Masvingo and Manicaland regions.
The First Lady, Auxillia Mnangagwa, initiated dialogue on Inheritance and Ownership Rights in all the ten provinces of the country. The dialogue is relevant considering how widows, widowers and orphans lose property after the loss of loved ones. The programme brought together numerous stakeholders offered community members an opportunity to interact with experts on inheritance issues. The Manicaland Provincial Dialogue was hosted at the Mutare Hall, where Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting, Hon Monica Mutsvangwa standing in for the First Lady said here is need to cascade inheritance and property rights information to grassroots levels and development partners should work in collaboration with other stakeholders for example Legal Aid Directorate and Legal Resource Foundation, so as to have a holistic approach in dealing with inheritance matters. Another key advocacy issue that was raised was the harmonization of the marriage laws with the constitution of Zimbabwe.

The event was also graced by Minister of State for Manicaland Province Dr. Ellen Gwaradzimba, the Master of High Court, Mr Mutasa, Office of the President and Cabinet, Research and Knowledge Management represented by Ambassador Bubi, the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs was represented by Mr Guvamombe, Ms. Mandigo represented the Executor’s Office and Chief Senator Makumbe represented traditional leaders. Development partners present were National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, Women’s Coalition of Zimbabwe, Simukai Child Protection, Transparency International Zimbabwe, Childline, Justice for Children, Family Aids Caring Trust, Legal Resources Foundation and the DREAMS Consortium members were also present.
Presidential clean up day in Mutare
Mat’land civil society meets the President

Over 140 Matabeleland civil society leaders met President Emmerson Mnangagwa at the Bulawayo State House. The meeting engaged the presidency and government on socio-economic and developmental issues pertinent to the Matabeleland region. The Civil Society delegation was led by Jennifer Williams the Director of Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA).

Upon his arrival at this meeting, Zenzele Ndebele, the CEO of Cite was arrested for possession of and attempt to smuggle empty tear gas canisters into the statehouse. He was later released and no criminal charges were laid against him.

Matabeleland Collective is a gathering of over 200 Civil Society organisations operating and based in the Western Region. The one defining feature of the collective is that it seeks to be distinctly regional, concerned with and existing to champion the issues of Matabeleland. The collective has been in existence for over 3 years and the leadership of the Matabeleland Collective comprises of Habakkuk Trust, WOZA, Women’s Institute for Leadership and Development, Emthonjeni Women’s Forum and Christian Alliance.

**Key discussion points**

**Peace and reconciliation**
- Decriminalisation of Gukurahundi
- Compensatory development
- Special programme to issue national identity documentation
- Devolution of power

**Social inclusion**
- Harmonisation of laws
- Frank and professional engagements
- Staffing of institutions
- Resource governance

**Women and other vulnerable populations**
- Economic empowerment
- Education
- Revision of the tax regime particularly for widows

"Surely this meeting is the first of many others... we may not always agree on everything but there is need to keep communication channels open and utilised always for the betterment of Zimbabwe" - President Mnangagwa
Ending violence against women and girls

UN Women is working towards the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. Gender equality and women’s rights advocates, in collaboration with other target-population-focused civil society groups, have successfully advocated for reforms in the law and policy frameworks, and have been the architects of new provisions, such as the gender equality and the expanded Bill of Rights for all groups in the Constitution adopted in 2013. In this regard UN Women together with CSOs and other key actors campaigning against Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) on the 7th of March met to unpack the key areas requiring support for a strengthened movement on VAWG and to brainstorm ideas on structures and processes that will enhance movement building at national, subnational and local levels.
Women were urged to stand up and participate in politics of the country at a multi stakeholder symposium organized by Women’s Coalition of Zimbabwe in Gweru.

The WCoZ Gweru Chapter Chairperson, Alice Maqata said the meeting sought to analyze the current status of women’s participation and to create a platform to raise awareness on the levels of women’s participation in governance and electoral processes.

Councilor Edson Kurebwaseka of ward 9 in Gweru said “Women rarely support each other. Unity amongst women will be a great milestone towards their emancipation especially in the political field.”

Women who attended the meeting concurred that support was not the major deterrent of their participation instead it is the violence, intimidation and abuse that characterize Zimbabwean politics.

One participant noted that women’s participation was at 10% in 1975 and 30 years later it has only increased by 8% to 18% in the world.

Women with disabilities said they find it particularly more difficult to participate let alone contest for political positions.

Sithembile Dube, the Ministry of Women Affairs, Small and Medium Enterprises Provincial Development Officer, called upon the women to stand up for themselves and advised them to empower themselves through information.

It was noted that most women lack information and this hinders their success in politics. In addressing these hindrances, CSOs were called upon to enhance the capacity of women and girls through trainings so that they are better positioned to participate in politics. Women were also encouraged to start income generating projects in order to raise financial resources ahead of elections.

The stakeholders' symposium was part of Strengthening Women's Advocacy for Inclusive Governance (SWAG) Campaign by WCoZ and was attended by youths, people with disabilities, women as well as different stakeholders from government ministries, councils, CSOs and churches.