



# In Case You Missed It

*Strengthening The Voice of NGOs Operating in Zimbabwe*

Monthly  
**MAGAZINE**  
Series  
**02\***

## In Case You Missed It

**A Look Back At Developmental Issues That You May Have Missed In The Previous Month.**

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Designed By  
Chris Katsaura

## In Case You Missed It

# Editor's Note

**Dear Readers,**

Welcome to the latest issue of our magazine, brought to you by the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO). As always, we are committed to bringing you the latest news, views, and insights from the world of local, regional, and international development within the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) sector.

The Private Voluntary Organisations (PVO) Amendment Bill is currently waiting for Presidential assent after being passed by both the National Assembly and Senate at the Parliament level on the 1st of February 2023. An analysis of the Bill by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) has revealed that, if passed into law in its current form, there will be various restrictions and threats that will compromise the independence and autonomy of the sector. The proposed PVO Amendment Bill clauses give the Government greater control over CSOs' activities and grant discretionary power to the government over the operations of CSOs. The UN Experts have released a statement urging the President not to sign the Bill, expressing concerns that the Bill violates international human rights standards, notably freedoms of association and assembly. As CSOs, we continue to engage the government to reconsider the

Bill in good faith for the benefit of the country. It is our hope that the President will consider recommendations made by CSOs and send the Bill back to Parliament for reconsideration.

In this issue, we reflect on the major developmental issues that you may have missed in the month of February, which are of great importance to the NGO community. Our contributors offer their perspectives on various important topics, sharing their experiences, insights, and recommendations for the future.

We also take a closer look at the contributions of NGOs in the sustainable development of Zimbabwe and the improvement of the lives of its people through the commemoration of World NGO Day, celebrated annually on February 27th.

As NANGO, we are proud to represent the collective voice of our members and advocate for positive change in the communities we serve. We hope that this issue of our magazine will inspire, challenge, and encourage you to join us in our efforts to create a more equitable and sustainable world.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to hearing your feedback on this issue.

**Ernest Nyimai**

**Executive Director, NANGO**

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Updates From NANGO

"World Radio Day 2023: NANGO Commemorates Radio's Vital Role in Promoting Long-Term Peace"

The National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO) joins the international community in celebrating World Radio Day on February 13th, 2023 under the theme, "Radio and Peace". This day was established in 2011 by UNESCO to recognise the unique ability of radio to bring people together and promote peace.

Radio is a powerful tool in promoting peace throughout the country and worldwide, as it provides a platform for fostering understanding between diverse people and societies. Radio broadcasts have been used to broadcast programmes that are geared towards recognising different cultural differences and encouraging dialogue. Moreover, radio has been used to broadcast messages of tolerance, promote disarmament agreements, and report on the progress of implementing peace agreements.

Broadly, radio programming that focuses on community mobilisation and awareness-building on how to prevent and resolve conflicts can help foster cohesion and understanding among conflicting parties. Furthermore, radio dramas featuring fictional scenarios can teach conflict resolution skills, helping local communities to overcome divisive issues peacefully. Ultimately, radio is an effective way of using communication technology to spearhead positive change in regions afflicted by conflict and also, in conflict prevention in times where conflict is rife.

NANGO members leverage radio to promote peacebuilding initiatives and facilitate mediation, dispute settlement, negotiation, conflict resolution, and management within the communities they serve. They use radio to embrace diversity, foster inclusivity and strengthen cohesion and harmony by allowing people to self-represent and amplify their stories. Additionally, radio is used to amplify the voices of citizens in mainstream peacebuilding, policy, and development processes. Community radio enables inclusivity, adaptability, and resilience through targeted awareness-raising and sensitisation campaigns by CSOs with the aim of creating a more equitable and just society.

## In Case You Missed It

NANGO would like to recognise and appreciate the radio broadcasters and personalities including its members in the Media thematic cluster for their critical role in promoting peace and tackling some of society's most pressing challenges. Their work in bringing radio to communities to amplify community issues has been invaluable, and we appreciate their dedication. Their work is more than needed in this period as the country head towards the 2023 general elections.

We are proud to be part of a global effort of civil society to use radio to promote peace, understanding, and tolerance. NANGO stands alongside other organisations committed to using radio to positively impact our world today and forever.

For this special occasion, NANGO challenges radio broadcasters and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to commit to developing vibrant, local radio broadcasting that promotes coexistence, reconciliation, and peace-building in all corners of the country and beyond.



#WorldRadioDay2023

“We are delighted to join the global community to recognize World Radio Day. Radio is an incredibly powerful tool that not only helps to break down barriers but also has the potential to be used as a platform to create new, positive conversations in societies.

**Ernest Nyimai**

Executive Director, NANGO



## In Case You Missed It

### Honouring Our Next Generation: National Youth Day, 2023

The National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO) joins the rest of the nation in commemorating National Youth Day, recognising the civic and economic contributions of young Zimbabweans across the country. This day is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the identity, energy, and influence of young people in Zimbabwe. This day serves as a reminder of the importance of the youth in the nation's development and progress.

The National Youth Day, established on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 to recognise the contributions of young people to various aspects of the country, arrives at a time when the nation is grappling with a surge in drug abuse, a rise in youth unemployment, mental health and wellbeing issues, and preparations for the 2023 harmonised elections are in full swing.

With a reported youth population of 67 percent of the total population of Zimbabwe, youths continue to bear the brunt of social, economic, and political exclusion, and vulnerability as witnessed by high unemployment, low levels of political representation and a lack of opportunities.

According to a report by the United Nations on Youth and the Agenda 2030, the active involvement of youth in sustainable development initiatives is essential for achieving sustainable, equitable, and stable societies by the target date, and to prevent the most severe threats and challenges to sustainable development, such as the effects of climate change, unemployment, poverty, gender inequality, conflict, and migration.

**We are cognisant** of efforts made by the government through the formulation of one of the country's blueprints, the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1), aimed at fully realising the country's Vision 2030. The strategy provides for the integration of cross-cutting issues such as gender, youth, people living with disabilities, arts and creative industry, environment, and information communication technology into all thematic working programmes during its implementation. This ensures that all stakeholders are taken into account and that the strategy is implemented in an equitable and inclusive manner.

**However, we note with concern** the prevalence of drug abuse among Zimbabwe's youth, the consequences of this issue are far-reaching. Not only are young people missing out on educational and economic opportunities, but the resources that could be used to benefit the entire community are being diverted away from programmes and services.



In order to combat the growing number of drug abusers in Zimbabwe, it is important to address the root causes of drug abuse. Often, youths turn to drugs to escape from pressures that are imposed upon them by society. It is therefore imperative that young people receive the support, guidance, and resources that they need in order to understand and cope with difficult situations.

In addition to addressing the root causes, it is essential to have access to effective treatments and counselling services for drug abusers in Zimbabwe. Treatment for drug addiction should focus on allowing individuals to develop strategies for overcoming their addiction. This could include specialised counselling and support groups.

Overall, the growing prevalence of drug abuse among Zimbabwean youth is an issue of great urgency and requires the implementation of immediate measures to address all aspects of the problem. It is essential that preventative measures be taken to ensure that drug abuse among youth is addressed in an effective and sustainable manner. Ultimately, the success of these efforts will depend on the commitment of individuals and communities in Zimbabwe to act against drug abuse.

**We note with concern** the high unemployment rate among youths in the country yet they are one of the marginalised groups. Youth unemployment has a significant effect on poverty levels. This is due to the higher risk of poverty developing in areas with persistent unemployment. Thus this can lead to less investment in much-needed areas such as infrastructure, health services,



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and basic sanitation.

Also, high levels of youth unemployment can lead to a rise in crime and other social issues within communities. This lack of young people being employed means that their living conditions could be worse, leading to a greater likelihood of crime, especially if these people are desperate for money.

These are just some of the effects of youth unemployment on sustainable development. But the reality is that countries with high levels of unemployment among young people are likely to struggle more in terms of creating a strong economy that is able to secure the future of its citizens in terms of meeting their essential needs, as well as promoting social justice. This can make it harder to achieve the goals of sustainable development, as a lack of resources will make it difficult to create initiatives and implement changes that are necessary to create a better future.

For this reason, it is vital that the government take steps to mitigate the problem of youth unemployment and make sure that there are more available jobs for the working-age population. This can be done through improving educational opportunities, investment in research and development, as well as incentives for employers to promote young people into their workforce.

NANGO and its members are dedicated to investing in both public and private initiatives designed to empower and develop Zimbabwean youth. Moreover, they create and raise awareness of the challenges and needs of young people, secure funding for their development initiatives, and implement livelihood projects. Additionally, NANGO and its members continue to be vocal advocates for young people and serve as valuable resource for opportunity creation, learning, and networking.

NANGO and its members are calling on young people to refrain from issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, and political violence, and to fully participate in and positively influence the electoral and development process of the nation. The association is reiterating its plea for youth to promote peace and exercise the best conflict prevention, management, resolution and transformation pre, during and post-2023 harmonised elections.

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**27  
FEB  
2023**

# Happy World NGO Day

“The role and influence of NGOs in advancing human rights and achieving SDGs”

Feel free to visit our website: [www.nangozim.org](http://www.nangozim.org)

**With Civil Society, No One and No Place is Left Behind in our Quest for Sustainable Development; World NGO Day 2023.**

The National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO) joins the rest of the world in commemorating World Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) day under the theme, **“the role and influence of NGOs in advancing human rights, addressing social and environmental challenges, and achieving sustainable development goals”**.

We mark this day to acknowledge the role that the NGOs are playing in contributing to the achievement of national and global human development goals such as the Agenda 2030, Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and treatment for HIV/AIDS among other things. As we are celebrating this day marked by the outstanding work done by the NGO sector in protecting and respecting fundamental human rights which embody key values in our society such as fairness, dignity, equality, and respect. Human rights are an important means of protection for us all, especially those who may face abuse, neglect, and isolation.

NANGO takes this opportunity to reflect on the significant role played by diverse Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Zimbabwe. The country's political, social, and economic turbulence of the past two decades has challenged CSOs to be more relevant by devising approaches to address the nation's problems while at the same time promoting people-centred development. The concept of people-centred development became popular within CSOs in Zimbabwe with the view that people must take responsibility for their development as opposed to accepting



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top-down solutions from governments, donors, or even CSOs.

Today we celebrate CSOs for fostering people-centred development by promoting ownership, inclusivity, and participation. Many of the NANGO members are engaged in policy dialogue and research, and share valuable information on sustainable and economic development. Others continue to provide development assistance or services to communities where the government has a less comparative advantage or no resources to provide. Those involved in advocacy for economic and social justice have championed good and accountable governance and challenged institutions and individuals where their rights have been violated. Social movements continue to mobilise citizens to claim their rights and pressure for accountability and social justice. CSOs are moving with a clarion call to embrace a rights-based approach, which seeks to alter the public's attitude toward authorities to demand service delivery and accountability.

The work of development organisations in Zimbabwe has been essential given the country's rising poverty levels during the economic doldrums and instability caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The recurrent natural disasters have also increased the suffering of the majority of citizens in general. The role of CSOs in building community resilience and securing livelihoods has been a welcome contribution given the challenges that the country is currently facing. Food security, access to potable water, income generation, sanitation and hygiene, and HIV awareness and treatment are among the major components of the projects that CSOs are currently implementing.

However, it is important to note that the NGO sector continues to impact our communities positively while experiencing shrinking civic space with Zimbabwe now marked as “repressed” on the CIVICUS Monitor. While our communities depend on the support of the NGOs, which in turn depend on foreign donors to support their work in those communities, we witnessed with concern the government's 2021 proposed Private Voluntary Amendment (PVO) Bill which has great potential to further shrink civic space due to repressive clauses being proposed. The proposed Bill will see CSOs currently registered as Trusts losing their legal personality and will become unlawful entities until and only if they are registered PVOs. This presents a serious existential threat to these CSOs, especially considering that there is no transition mechanism in place.

Zimbabwe is already regarded as an insecure destination for donor funding. The proposed law will bring forth a new wave of donor flight and this will further weaken the national development agenda. There is, already, a significant decline in development partner support even if the Bill is yet to be passed. Globally, CSOs are recognised as sources of innovations and leadership

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development. Without vibrant CSOs, the development agenda enunciated in Agenda 2030, Vision 2030, and National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) will be difficult to achieve. The increased demand for administrative and operational requirements at the local government level, mainly Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and clearance letters presents grim operational restrictions for CSOs. Concerns noted include the exorbitant fees being charged for an organisation to be cleared and for the MoU to be processed by district councils, the cumbersome process to acquire such clearances and approvals, the non-standardisation of the procedure to acquire such clearances; and the rejection of some MoUs without clear reasons or justifications. There is, therefore, a need for an enabling CSOs operating environment.

Despite these challenges, we are proud of the results the NGO sector has achieved so far towards the betterment of the lives of the general populace. As your coordinating body, we appreciate the firmness and resilience you demonstrated in very difficult circumstances. You remain unwavering in the quest to address the various needs of the people of Zimbabwe. The NGO sector has over the years increased in numbers and roles, complementing and enhancing quality outreach for social service delivery to Zimbabwean communities in support of government initiatives and efforts, as its capacity shrank progressively over the years, compromising sustainable transformation of the country's poor communities.

Given these experiences and challenges, the sector is in urgent need to re-organise and revitalise itself so that it plays a critical role through a well-coordinated voice in shaping policy orientation towards national development as well as issues directly impacting its operating environment. NANGO is alive to the need for a vibrant civil society that is essential to guaranteeing sustainable development as enunciated in the NDS1 and Vision 2030. The 'Whole of Society' approach adopted by the government recognises the role of CSOs in development. It is also imperative that the sector embrace diversity, build inclusivity, consolidate cohesion and harmony in the sector, and unite NGO voices, policies, and programmes. We reiterate the need for the sector to comply with the existing laws of the country and demonstrate accountability to demand accountability. We would like to call on the government to meaningfully engage in dialogues and consult with civil society in the quest to regulate the operations of the CSOs in the country. NANGO is ready to facilitate regular and systematic engagement meetings with the government at multiple levels to share CSOs collective results and more importantly, CSOs operating environment.

National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations

Strengthening the voice of NGOs operating in Zimbabwe



# How you and your organisation can benefit from NANGO membership

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- Visit our website at [www.nangozim.org](http://www.nangozim.org)

## UN experts urge President of Zimbabwe to reject bill restricting civic space

GENEVA (14 February 2023) – UN experts\* today urged Zimbabwe’s President to reject enacting a bill that would severely restrict civic space and the right to freedom of association in the country.

The experts expressed deep concern that the oversight regime in the Private Voluntary Organisations (PVO) Amendment Bill for civil society organisations provides for disproportionate and discretionary powers to the newly established Office of the Registrar of PVOs, without independence from the executive branch.

The Senate passed the bill on 1 February 2023, and the legislation is currently before the President of Zimbabwe for his decision on its enactment.

The Registrar’s Office powers will include the ability to consider, grant or reject the registration of PVOs, with little to no judicial recourse against such decisions. “The bill’s requirements would also immediately render existing organisations, operating lawfully as trusts and associations, illegal,” the experts said.

“The Office of the Registrar will also have extensive powers to intervene in and monitor the activities of PVOs,” the experts said. They raised additional concerns about the prohibition of any “political affiliation” and unjustified restrictions on PVOs’ ability to obtain funding, including foreign funds. The vagueness or non-definition of many provisions in the bill also raises concerns that the proposed law will be misapplied.

They warned that actions considered to be in breach of certain provisions in the Bill could lead to criminal prosecution, with penalties ranging from heavy fines to imprisonment.

“While one of the stated aims of the Bill is to counter terrorism and money laundering in Zimbabwe, the restrictions contained therein will have a chilling effect on civil society organisations – particularly dissenting voices. By enacting this legislation, authorities would effectively be closing an already shrinking civic space,” the UN experts said.

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They noted that the PVO Amendment Bill has faced strong opposition, especially from civil society organisations and the international community. The UN experts submitted an analysis of the bill to the Government in 2021, concluding that the Amendment was incompatible with international human rights obligations, in particular the right to freedom of association. Despite consultations with authorities and legislators, the current version of the PVO Bill does not address these concerns.

“It is not too late for the President to change course,” the experts said, urging him to reject the PVO Amendment Bill in its current form.

“We stand ready to assist the Government to revise the Amendment Bill to ensure compliance with international human rights norms and standards,” the experts said.

ENDS



# The Budget Brief

Welcome to The Budget Brief, our newly designed monthly newsletter to bring you up to speed on our work. I am thrilled to be writing to you as IBP’s new executive director. Over the past several weeks, I have been on the road speaking with colleagues and partners from Cape Town to Abuja and Nairobi. I have heard great insights about how, together, we are leveraging budget processes and building effective coalitions to improve services and ensure the management of public money reflects communities' priorities. I saw in my meetings with public officials and local partners, the concrete impact we have had on policies and practices that allow for greater participation and transparency.

I am in awe of the collective strength of our diverse network of partners across more than 100 countries and of the strong leadership of our partners with whom I was fortunate to meet. Partnerships have always been at the heart of our organization’s vision and, as we look forward, we want to hear from you about how we can take our collaboration to the next level. Budgeting has been a powerful tool for a growing number of organizations to advocate for their governments to prioritize what their communities need. We hope to continue to open spaces for





## In Case You Missed It



**Photo Credit @InternationalBudgetPartnership**

those critical conversations between civil society and governments to happen and to support processes that promote structural changes towards more equitable budgets. We want to bring the collective knowledge and insights of our partners to the main stages of decision-making at national, regional and global levels. We want to expand the space for peer-to-peer learning where partners can engage with and learn from each other's experiences and innovate new approaches together.

As I return to Quito this week, I feel energized and inspired by the staff, partners and allies I met in my travels. I would love to hear from more of you about how we can co-create a shared agenda to make budgets work for people. If you have ideas to share, please reach out at [info@internationalbudget.org](mailto:info@internationalbudget.org). I look forward to working with you as we chart a more just and equitable future together!

**Ana Patricia Munõz,**  
**Executive Director, International Budget Partnership**



**STOP  
DRUG  
ABUSE**

## In Case You Missed It

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TWITTER SPACE DISCUSSION ON 'THE ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL: GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES'

On Wednesday, 7 February 2023, The Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) hosted a Twitter Space discussion on; '**The Electoral Amendment Bill: Gaps and Opportunities.**' The main objective of the discussion was to analyse the Electoral Amendment Bill, identify gaps and opportunities in the bill and proffer recommendations.

The discussion had a panel of experts representing different groups including People with Disabilities (PWDs), women and youth. These included Sakhile Sifelani Ngoma, the Executive Director of the Women in Politics Support Unit (WIPSU); Bruce Nyoni the Executive Director of the Albino Trust of Zimbabwe (ATZ); Youngerson Matete, the Director of Project Vote 263; Farirai Mudiwa the Executive Director of Institute for Transformational Community Development Trust (ITCDT); Solomon Bobosibunu, the Programmes Manager of the Election Resource Centre (ERC) and Heather Koga, a Senior Advocacy for Electoral Reform Officer at ZESN.

The Electoral Amendment Bill was gazetted on 18 November 2022 aimed at aligning the Electoral Act to the Constitution. The Bill proposes a number of amendments which include, the removal of the drivers licence as form of identification, disqualification of candidates convicted of an offence and it sets time limits for candidates to withdraw from the electoral race. Furthermore, it provides for the implementation of the Youth Quota in the National Assembly referred to in Section 124 (1) (c) of the Constitution. It also provides for the continued election of 60 women to the National Assembly under a party list as required by Section 124 of the Constitution and the election of women on a party list basis to Provincial councils and local authorities, also in line with section 277 (4) of the Constitution.

The discussion kicked off with Heather Koga chronicling ZESN's journey of advocating electoral reforms soon after the holding of the 2018 elections from the compilation of the Election Observer Missions (EOMs) recommendations of the 2018 harmonised elections which culminated into the petitioning of the Parliament and the Drafting of the Comprehensive Electoral Amendment Bill. Commenting on the Electoral Amendment Bill proposed by the Parliament Koga stated that the Bill addresses nominal administrative issues and does not focus on pertinent issues that may have a bearing on the credibility of the Zimbabwe.

Bruce Nyoni stated that the quotas in the Bill must expressly reserve some seats for PWDs. He gave an example of the ten seats of the youth quota and said at least two seats must be reserved for PWDs (1 male, 1 female). Nyoni also highlighted that consultations for the Electoral Amendment Bill were exclusionary, given the fact that people with hearing impairments could not participate in the processes. He however appreciated provision to make submissions in writing.

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He further mentioned that Bill does not address the issue of secrecy of the ballot and recommended that Zimbabwe should take a cue from Kenya and provide tactile ballot template for people with visual impairments.

Solomon Bobosibunu observed that there has not been any significant changes on the electoral legal framework since 2018. He noted the regression by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission in the availing of the voters' roll for inspection by the public. Bobosibunu highlighted that the proposed Electoral Amendment Bill is the first attempt since 2018 to reform the legal framework. Sakhile Ngoma bemoaned candidate nomination fees as exclusionary to women, as most women cannot afford, arguing that there should have been consultations on these fees before they were gazetted. She mentioned that the Electoral Act is gender blind on the implementation of gender equality on candidate party lists, highlighting that Constitutional Amendment No 2 requires Proportional Representation of women of not less than 30% at local council level. Ngoma also cited that for the past 3 election cycles women in local government have been dropping by 3.3% due to various impediments and called upon lawmakers to put provisions which protect women, punish perpetrators of political gender based violence, and hate speech.

Youngerson Matete postulated that the introduction of the Youth Quota in the National Assembly is a welcome development, however, 10 seats are not adequate for youth representation, as youth constitute over 67% of Zimbabwe's population. He further mentioned that the political parties must be compelled to submit a party list with youth being the majority. He also took a swipe at the exorbitant nomination fees as 90% of the youth in Zimbabwe are unemployed and cannot afford to contest.

Farirai Mudiwa reiterated that the Women's Quota system does not meet the 50\50 prescribed by the Constitution. She mentioned that provisions regulating the media reportage of electoral processes should be reviewed. Mudiwa emphasized that there is need for provisions, which set out measures aimed at preventing the abuse to the right to access public broadcasting services and all political parties must be granted equal access to the media. She further highlighted the need for effective election dispute resolution mechanisms. Mudiwa cited that Section 67 of the Constitution provides for a right to vote for all citizens however, this have not been fully embraced by legal framework; millions of citizens in the diaspora, prisoners, people in hospitals and personals on duty are excluded.

The discussion was a success as it provided a robust platform to discuss the gaps and opportunities provided by the Electoral Amendment Bill and proffer recommendations on how the Bill can be further improved in order to ensure a conducive electoral environment in the 2023 Harmonized elections and beyond. 198 people tuned in. Below is the link to the recording:

Link: <https://twitter.com/i/spaces/1LyxBqwPqXnJN>

Register to

# VOTE

Mobile registration blitz runs  
from 12-21 March 2023

## What to bring?

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valid Zimbabwean passport

**ALL Zimbabweans above  
the age of 18 are eligible to  
register to vote**



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- A lodgers permit issued by the relevant authority
- rates, water, electricity, telephone or credit store statement on which is shown your name and physical address.
- a statement from your landlord, parent, friend confirming that you reside at the stated place of residence accompanied by any of the documents in the name of the landlord, parent, friend, or such other person at whose residence you reside.
- A statement by your employer confirming your address.
- A confirmation letter by owner of resettlement officer confirming that you reside in the ward you claim to reside.
- if you are unable to produce any of the above documents as proof of residence you can submit a residents AFFIDAVIT stating your place of residence (an affidavit can be available at the registration centre).

## In Case You Missed It

Food Insecurity Haunts Chiadzwa As ZCDC Intervenes

By Proud Nyakuni of ZIDAWU.

Food and nutrition insecurity has been affecting the community of Marange due to the lack of a good harvest for the 2022 harvest season. The situation has been aided by organisations such as the World Food Programme (WFP) and GOAL. For the past month, the Zimbabwe Consolidated Diamond Company (ZCDC) has been upscaling its responsiveness to the issues raised by the community. With the programme of donating food hampers to the community members, ZCDC is responding to the call of traditional leadership to assist the community with food.

At the Multi-stakeholder meeting held at the mining company in May 2022, Chief Marange requested that the mining companies consider giving out food to the people. In Arda Transau, during the Ward Coordination meetings, the Councillor for Ward 3 and relocated families made the same request. Therefore, the giving of food hampers is seen as a positive response to the concerns raised by the community. To date, 3,000 households in Ward 30 and 3,600 in Ward 29 have received hampers worth around £20. The community appreciates these baby steps in giving back to the community they are extracting diamonds from.

However, the gesture has been met with mixed feelings. While some appreciate it, the majority of the community members, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), Civil Society organisations (CSOs), and local leaders fear that this is a move calculated to silence the community voices. This is because the development came a month after the community was banned from demonstrating against the government and mining companies for the lack of local economic development and community beneficiation as envisaged by Section 13(4) of the 2013 Constitution of Zimbabwe and the Africa Mining Vision. The case appealing the denial of the right to demonstrate is now under court processes. In the petition by the Community of Marange and CBOs written to the World Diamond Council and in a statement published online in mid-November 2022, the expectations of the community of Marange were categorically stated, and one of them is a transparent Community Development and Benefits Agreement that is legally binding by 31 December 2022.

The Community has already drafted a Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) and shared it with both mining companies and the Ministry of Mines. If signed, the CBA will address some of the community grievances, including social service delivery issues such as infrastructure development, education, health, maintenance, and construction of roads that heavy mining

## In Case You Missed It

company vehicles have destroyed. This demand is based on the commitment made by ZCDC to the community during the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme self-assessment visit by the parliamentary portfolio committee on the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development in September 2022. The National Hansard for the Parliament of Zimbabwe of 17 May 2022, the report to parliament tabled this commitment that was supposed to be operationalised by 2022 but has not been. The operationalisation of this will cover the gap left by the non-functionality of the Zimunya Marange Community Share Ownership Trust which was supposed to provide sustainable development through income-generating projects.

A community member who spoke anonymously expressed that while they appreciate food hampers, they prefer farming their food crops. She said if companies could establish irrigation schemes for them, then it would alleviate poverty and food insecurity. Already there are open dams created by mining, for example, one near Gandauta Secondary school. It was also indicated that there are already existing pipes drawing water from the Odzi River to the ZCDC mining concession and another by Anjin mine. The two diamond companies can take advantage of these water pipes and develop irrigation schemes that can benefit the Chiadzwa and Mukwada communities.

Marange is prone to droughts and erratic rainfalls thus food and nutrition security will remain a challenge. While giving food hampers is a noble idea, it is a temporary solution that is not sustainable in the long run. There is a need to provide a lasting solution as indicated above to ensure households can produce their food and remove the dependency syndrome created by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that donate food every year. So while the beneficiaries appreciate it, a more sustainable way of assisting the community is needed and can only be done by meeting the community demands and requests as well as promises made as mentioned above. The diamonds will soon be exhausted in Marange and the community needs sustainable development projects that will give them livelihoods beyond the lifespan of the mining companies.

This writer sought the comment from officials from ZCDC but they have not responded at the time of going for publication. If Zimbabwe is to leave a positive legacy as the Chairperson of KPCS as indicated by Hon Chitando when they attained the position, then responding positively to the above community demands will ensure that legacy is built. It is not only a legacy but also the vision of having an upper middle-class economy backed by mining by 2030 will be attainable.

## In Case You Missed It

The creation of a dependency syndrome by handing out food hampers without providing the means of production will further impoverish the community of Marange and all mining communities in the country at large. It is high time that Zimbabwe takes a positive and firm position on economic empowerment, Local economic development, and Community Beneficiation from natural resources to ensure the turning around of the economic situation of Zimbabwe. The move towards a Just energy transition can only be successful if backed by effective natural resource governance that allows for transparency and accountability and curbing of illicit financial flows. In the case of community beneficiation, there is a need to have a social license to operate as opposed to corporate social responsibility (CSR). The same goes for continuous engagement between companies and the affected communities.

# OPPORTUNITY

### Attention all young climate advocates!

KAS is now accepting applications for the Climate Diplomacy Academy 2023!

**Details and application:** <https://rb.gy/zsbpdj>

### Call for Applications: Human Rights 75 Youth Advisory group

The Youth Advisory Group will be composed of twelve young people with consideration of gender, age, geographic, ethnic, and cultural balance. They will be selected based on the following eligibility criteria:

- 18-29 years old (as of 1 March 2023).
- Minimum 2 years of experience in advocating for human rights at local, national, regional, or international level.
- English language proficiency (working level).

Click here to apply: <https://rb.gy/agnpip>



## In Case You Missed It

### **Terms of Reference for Research on the Prevalence of OGBV and its impact on women in Zimbabwe**

Emthonjeni Women's Forum (EWF) is an NGO established in 2010 to assist in preventive and responsive measures of gender-based violence and in addressing behavior change gaps for survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence. EWF was specifically founded to assist women overcome domestic violence and realize their potential as well as creating a platform where they can share and exchange information on various issues brought about by various inequalities between men and women. The organization is currently operating in Matabeleland South, North and in Bulawayo. EWF seeks services of a researcher or research team to undertake research on the prevalence of Technology-Facilitated or Online Gender Based Violence (OGBV) and its impact on women in Zimbabwe.

**Details:** <https://www.nangozim.org/tenders/terms-of-reference-research-prevalence-ogbv-impact-women-zimbabwe/>

**Deadline: 17 March 2023**

### **Communications and Visibility Specialist**

**Closing Date:** March 10, 2023

Position Title: Communications and Visibility Specialist

Opportunity Type: Employment

Position Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

Reports to: Team Leader

Application Deadline: 10 March 2023

Duration of Contract: April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024

Details: <https://www.nangozim.org/vacancies/communications-and-visibility-specialist/>

### **ARIPO Young Professionals Programme 2023 for young African graduates**

The African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) invites applications from graduates of its Member States for a two-year Young Professionals Programme (YPP), at the ARIPO Headquarters in Harare, Zimbabwe. The YPP is a well-structured unique on-the-job learning and development programme aimed at grooming and nurturing high-potential young professionals from diverse academic backgrounds in the technical aspects of Intellectual Property (IP), as well as leadership and administrative roles, and empowering them to contribute to the socio-economic growth and development of Africa.

**Details:** <https://rb.gy/xkyryc>

**Deadline: 10 March 2023**

In Case You Missed It

# WHO WE ARE



## OVERVIEW

The National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO) is the official voluntary coordinating body of registered NGOs in their diversity operating in Zimbabwe. It is a non-partisan, non-profit making and non-denominational organisation mandated to strengthen the voice of NGOs for the betterment of the people in Zimbabwe. Administratively, NANGO is decentralised into five regional offices that coordinate the activities of the CSOs in all ten provinces of Zimbabwe.

Cognisant of diversity of membership, members are clustered into 10 thematic sectors in line with their programmatic focus and these are; Media, Arts and Culture, Children, Disability, Economic, Health, Human Rights, Humanitarian, Land and Environment, Women, AND Youth. Concomitantly NANGO bears the responsibility of unifying these various sectors by creating spaces for collaboration, networking, knowledge exchange, mutual support, and the development of common best practices.



## OUR OBJECTIVES

The association exists to fulfil the following objectives:

1. To promote, coordinate and organise the participation and contribution of Non-Governmental Organisations in Zimbabwe in the development discourse of Zimbabwe.
2. To promote and facilitate the collective agenda-setting, interaction, consultation, and exchange of information and experience with and among NGOs operating in Zimbabwe.
3. To create an enabling and conducive operating environment for NGOs necessary in ensuring sector independence, improved accountability, and fulfilment of institutional mandates.
4. To create and identify opportunities for NGOs to pursue their visions and missions at the same time building members' capacities, resources, and synergies.

# In Case You Missed It

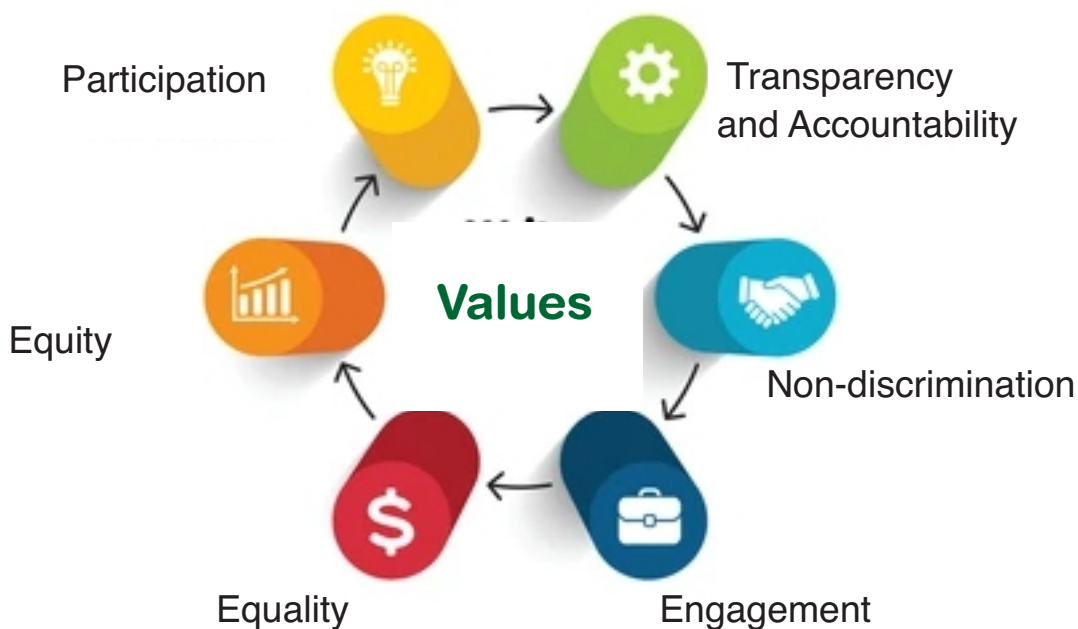
## Mission

We, the community of NGOs, are committed to strengthening, representing, and coordinating the work of NGOs in Zimbabwe by creating space, promoting networking, dialogue and engagement to enable the fulfilment of members' visions and missions.

## Vision

A proactive community of NGOs responsive and committed to the sustainable development needs of all people in Zimbabwe and the full realisation of human rights, democracy, good governance, and poverty alleviation.

www.nangozim.org



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### **Disclaimer**

The contents of articles from independent writers do not necessarily reflect the position and resolve of NANGO. NANGO provides platforms that promote national dialogue on topical and contemporary issues that affect Zimbabweans in one way or another.

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NANGO Publications