**List of Acronyms**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACE</td>
<td>Agricultural Centres of Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIPPA</td>
<td>Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AISP</td>
<td>Agriculture Input Support Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARDA</td>
<td>Agricultural and Rural Development Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AN</td>
<td>Ammonium Nitrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATIMC</td>
<td>Anti-Trafficking Inter-Ministerial Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>AusAID</td>
<td>Australian Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSA</td>
<td>Broadcasting Services Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>BVC</td>
<td>Beef Value Chain</td>
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<tr>
<td>BVR</td>
<td>Biometric Voter Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>CADP</td>
<td>Comprehensive Agriculture Development Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMPFIRE</td>
<td>Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMESA</td>
<td>The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CERF</td>
<td>Central Emergency Response Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTCO</td>
<td>Cotton Company of Zimbabwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSOs</td>
<td>Civil Society Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Dairy Value Chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DID</td>
<td>Department for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHIS</td>
<td>District Health Information Software</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDF</td>
<td>European Development Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Economic Partnership Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPI</td>
<td>Expanded Programme of Immunization</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESA</td>
<td>Eastern and Southern African Countries</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organisation</td>
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<td>Family Planning</td>
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<td>FDI</td>
<td>Foreign Direct Investment</td>
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<td>GAM</td>
<td>Global Acute Malnutrition</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<tr>
<td>GMB</td>
<td>Grain Marketing Board</td>
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<td>GoZ</td>
<td>Government of Zimbabwe</td>
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</table>
HCC- Health Centre Committees
HCPs- Health Care Personnel
HDF- Health Development Fund
HIV- Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HPV- Human Papiloma Virus
IEC- Information Education and Communication
IEE- Indegenisation Economic Empowerment
IDSR- Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response
IPVC- Inclusive Poultry Value Chain
JLOS- Justice Law and Order Sector
JSC- Judicial Services Commission
KP- Key Populations
LAD- Legal Aid Directorate
LGBTI- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender And Intersex
MAM- Management of Acute Malnutrition
MDC- Movement of Democratic Change
MDGs- Millennium Development Goals
MMR- Maternal Mortality Ratio
MoHCC- Ministry of Health and Child Care
MSM- Men who have sex with men
MTCT- Mother to Child Transmission
NAC- National Aids Council
NANGO - National Association of Non-Governmental Organization
NAPLAC- National Plan of Action on anti-trafficking
NHS - National Health Strategy
NIP - National Indicative Programme
NCDs- Non Communicable Diseases
NGO- Non Governmental Organizations
NHS- National Health Strategy
NPRC- National Peace and Reconciliation Commission
NRM- National Referral Mechanism for Vulnerable Migrants in Zimbabwe
OBS- Open Budget Survey
OPHID- Organisation for Public Health Intervention and Development
PBO- Parliamentary Budget Office
PEFA- Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability
PEPFAR- President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief
PFM- Public Finance Management
PFMA- Public Finance Management Act
PFMS- Public Financial Management System
POSA- Public Order and Security Act
PUCs- Professional Updating Centres
PWDs- Persons with Disabilities
PWSAIS- Presidential Well-Wishers Special Agriculture Input Scheme
RBZ- Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe
RMNCH+ - Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child Health and Adolescent Health
SADC- Southern African Development Commission
SADC PF- Southern African Development Commission
SAPST - Southern Africa Parliamentary Support Trust
SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals
SMAIAS- Sam Moyo African Institute for Agrarian Studies
STAB - State Transparency and Accountability Barometer
SRHR- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
TB- Tuberculosis
TSP- Transitional Stabilisation Program
UHC- Universal Health Coverage
UNFPA- United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF- United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
VHWs- Village health workers
VoTs- Victims of Trafficking
WJP - World Justice Project (WJP)
WASH- Water and Sanitation for Health
WDSS- Weekly Disease Surveillance System
WHO- World Health Organization
ZACC - Zimbabwe Anti Corruption Commission
ZAIM - Zimbabwe Agricultural Investment Plan
ZAN - Zimbabwe AIDS Network
ZANU PF- Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front
ZECC- Zimbabwe Electoral Commission
ZiCHIRE - Zimbabwe Community Health Intervention Research Project
ZITF- Zimbabwe International Trade Fair
ZGC- Zimbabwe Gender Commission
ZHRC- Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission
ZIMVAC- Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee
ZITF- Zimbabwe International Trade Fair
ZMC- Zimbabwe Media Commission
ZPCS- Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services
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Executive Summary

The State of Transparency and Accountability Barometer (STAB) is a tool used by the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO) and its partners in monitoring the results and implementation of the National Indicative Program (NIP 2014-2020). The NIP focuses on consolidation of democracy, peace and stability, prosperity and sustainable development. Under the program, the country is supported in three pillars, which are governance and institution building, health and agriculture based economic development. This is in recognition of the crucial role that these three pillars have on sustainable development of Zimbabwe.

The first edition of this bi-annual publication is a baseline focusing on the state of the implementation of the NIP actions as of December 2018. However, the NIP monitoring is a continuous process that will be conducted by civil society until 2020.

Methodology

The data used to analyse the NIP implementation was collected from primary and secondary data sources. Primary data was collected from Government officials, EU funded projects under the NIP, Parliamentarians, Political Leaders, Independent Commissions, Civil Society leaders, Child-led Groups, Development Partners and Citizens through focus group discussions, policy dialogues, consensus building sessions and in-depth interviews.

Secondary data sources comprised of Civil Society Reports, Elections Reports, Parliamentary Hansards, Budget documents and policy documents such as the Monetary Policy Statements, Transitional Stabilisation Program, Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and National Health Strategy. Policies have been analysed from 2015 to 2018 to cover the period between signing of the 11th European Development Fund to date.
Overall findings

- **Access to information**
  Citizen participation in policy dialogues with duty bearers has increased in the last three years although the findings show that this participation has had limited impact. A number of factors were cited as hindering citizen meaningful engagement and these include lack of accurate, reliable and easily accessible information for them to monitor and evaluate Government actions. Information from public authorities has not been easily accessible, leading to unavailability of the constitution, comprehensive budget information, Gazetted Bills and policies that are expected to aid public social accountability and citizen informed engagement.

- **Awareness of the NIP**
The findings indicate that three years in the implementation of the NIP, there is still low awareness of the programme within Government and its departments, Civil Society Organisations, and communities. This has meant that visibility of the NIP, its objectives and targets are not known by the primary and secondary beneficiaries. Resultantly, there is a further low level of appreciation of the role of the European Union in development cooperation.

  It was also noted that generally, government institutions to a greater extent are under resourced; they lack physical and technological facilities and resources as there is no coherent strategy for addressing the various infrastructural needs in a coordinated manner in order to ensure the appropriate allocation of financial, human and technological resources. This has inherently affected service delivery across the three pillars of health, agriculture and justice sectors.

  Government faces a shortage of qualified and trained staff to fulfill its mandates. A number of institutions suffer from frequent staff turn over, particularly of professional staff such as lawyers, extension officers and medical personnel amongst others.

---

**On relevance, efficiency and effectiveness**
The NIP is relevant in its design, and execution. However, lack of a communications and visibility strategy at both government and the European Union means that a lot of the lessons and change stories go undocumented. Inadequate visibility on the implementation and intention of the project does not inform and inspire public social accountability.

  On efficiency, the NIP implementation has been characterized by some delays that can largely be explained by "force majeure" and changes in circumstances which could not easily be recovered from. This has seen some programs especially in agriculture being launched three years after program inception.

  The effectiveness of the project appears broadly satisfactory, particularly taking into consideration that the NIP implementation is done through a multi stakeholder integrated development approach which addresses past challenges of silo program implementation especially within the health sector. However, Government, EU and CSOs have not put in place robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks for these respective NIP programs.
Governance and Institution Building Findings

- There is generally low public participation in the national and local Government budget processes, due to a myriad of reasons such as limited public awareness on the need to participate, community fatigue, exclusionary nature of advertisement of meetings and venues that are used for public hearings.
- The pace for alignment of laws to the Constitution is generally slow owing to, amongst others, lack of proper coordination by Line Ministries resulting in fragmentation efforts, parallel processes of research, amendment and alignment.
- Members of Parliament exhibit low technical competence vis-à-vis their legislative and oversight role over the executive, in particular knowledge on public finance management and public social accountability processes.
- The de-centralization of the High Courts is greatly appreciated, there is a call to widen the coverage, including the setting up of juvenile courts at district level. There is also need to close the gap between community courts and the Magistrate’s court in executing justice.
- The 2018 elections exposed deep-rooted social and political intolerance, largely directed at women in Zimbabwe. Women in politics were openly violated, demeaned, degraded and subjected to public humiliation on both public and private media, with limited rebuff from relevant stakeholders such as the Independent Commissions, Civil Society Organisations and Government.
- Independent Commissions worked in silos during the election period, which reduced their influence pre, during and post elections as they did not develop a harmonized strategy to ensure that issues of rights, women, media and tolerance were properly reported, investigated, documented and addressed.
- Independent commissions do not have a public strategy that ensures peace, tolerance, safety, security, upholding of human rights, and respect for the sanctity of life. Therefore, none of them, particularly the NPRC and ZHRC, did openly speak out against exclusion, repression and human rights abuses.

Agriculture Based Economic Development Findings

- Community consultations indicate that poverty in Zimbabwe is strongly linked to the under-performance of agriculture. However, major constraints such as limited access to inputs and credit, input/output market inefficiencies, lack of agricultural and rural infrastructure, limited investments in land and reduced adoption of good agricultural practices contribute to food insecurity and low agricultural productivity.
- Communities highlighted that the Agricultural Input Support Schemes need to be reviewed to take into account the unique needs of different natural regions in the country and the threat of climate change and natural disasters.
- It is further noted that agriculture productivity is being hampered by the existence of large tracts of land lying idle. This suggests that there is no optimal utilisation of land.
- Direct investment in infrastructure and other tangible investments is limited, with support mostly towards relief, input support for crops and livestock, measures for market linkages and small-scale farmers training.
- By end of 2018, the Zimbabwe Agriculture Growth Program (ZAGP) had not commenced, raising concerns on fruitful implementation within the lifespan of the NIP.
Health Findings

• Zimbabwe’s response to the HIV epidemic, despite achieving commendable progress in Sub Saharan Africa, still lags behind in addressing the rights and needs of key population groups. The country’s guiding strategic document for HIV response omitted advocacy for de-criminalisation, de-penalisation or harm reduction for key populations. The impact of this scenario on the nation’s HIV response cannot be underestimated.

• In the Public Health ACT (Chapter 15:17) access to comprehensive public care is curtailed as the law states that the right to services shall be delivered upon availability of resources. In addition, the general public remains oblivious to the provisions in the ACT and the state has not provided a mechanism to relate it to subser-vient policies and strategies.

• Restrictions on registration, financing and activities of CSOs working with or intending to work with sex workers, and the LGBTI community have been inconsistent with the Constitution, as well as regional and international human rights laws and have prevented civil society from effectively working on the HIV response.

• Essential health service coverage is reported to be above 70 percent in Zimbabwe and the service coverage included: reproductive health; Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI); NCDs, Management of Acute Malnutrition as well as AIDS and TB programmes. However, findings on the ground show that vulnerable communities in hard to reach and some resettlement areas continue to face challenges in terms of access to primary health care facilities.

• Young people still face barriers such as discrimination and exclusion when they access HIV and Sexual Reproductive Health services.

Overall Recommendations

• There is need to develop a coordinated and robust communication and visibility strategy that should target both the primary and secondary beneficiaries of the programmes and the general populace. This will help in showcasing the implementation and results of the EU financed programmes from the beneficiaries perspectives rather that a one sided view from the EU or the implementing partners Thus, the EU should consider setting up a dedicated project to ensure that awareness has been raised for huge high impact programmes.

Governance and Institution Building Pillar

• Public participation in the budget processes should be improved through publishing the budget calendar and legislating it for accountability. This allows for citizens to know when a process is about to take place hence allowing them to use publicly available platforms to engage in the processes.

• To enhance state transparency in the Public Finance Management System, the Government should prioritize providing comprehensive budget information to the public timely and on publicly accessible platforms. This also entails increasing availability of information on expenditure and revenue, including classification of expenditure by function.

• Given the low technical competence of the parliament vis-à-vis their important oversight role of the executive, there is need to invest in building the capacity of parliamentarians so that they can effectively demand more transparency and participation of citizens in the budget process.

• Government to embark on genuine comprehensive and inclusive electoral reform processes that consider all the aspects of an election. This should be done well ahead of the next elections to ensure that all the laws that need to be passed by Parliament are enacted in good time.

• ZEC should consider partnering with CSOs and other Independent Commissions throughout the electoral period so that there is a clear election roadmap, educating citizens and political parties on human rights and conflict prevention ahead of elections.

• All the commissions need to formulate a public strategy that ensures peace, tolerance, safety, security, upholding of human rights, and respect for the sanctity of life. This should include putting in place conflict early warning and early response mechanisms that ensure protection of women and children ahead of the elections. The commissions are reminded to recommend prosecution for criminal violations.
Agriculture Based Economic Development Pillar

• To improve food security and agriculture productivity, there is need for GoZ, EU and CSOs facilitate access to inputs and credit, efficiency of the input/output market.
• GoZ, EU and CSOs to jointly review the Agricultural Input Support Schemes taking into account the unique needs of different natural regions in the country and the threat of climate change and natural disasters.
• GoZ to concluding and publicise the Land Audit with a view ensuring that there is optimal utilisation of land.
• Agricultural extension services should be revamped including enforcement of livestock disease control laws. There is need to promote contract farming in communities; recast agricultural land into optimal farm sizes for viable production; promote conservation agriculture and agricultural diversification in rural areas.
• To put in place an accelerated implementation matrix for the ZAGP so that it meets its targets within the lifespan of the NIP.

Health Pillar

• Government, EU and Civil Society Organisations to re-evaluate the contribution of the at risk populations to the dynamics of most epidemic diseases and to realign country priorities and programs relating to the provision of health care accordingly.
• Decriminalize specific behaviors: There is a general consensus that criminalization of specific behaviors including homosexuality and sex work, is driving marginalized groups into obscurity and complicating the effectiveness of interventions designed to reduce risks and vulnerabilities. There is need therefore to revisit some of the laws that criminalize certain behaviors for better health outcomes.
• To improve access to primary health care by communities in hard to reach areas, there is need for increased investment in supporting Village Health Workers (VHWs).
Governance and Institution Building

1.1 Introduction

This section gives an assessment of the implementation and results of the Governance and Institution Building pillar under the NIP. The thrust therefore, is to give an account of how the projects under this pillar are being implemented and to track progress of key results. Thus the section is devoted to assessing the NIP projects, key Institutions (Government, CSOs, Independent Commission, Community Structures and the EU as well) and the commitments that were made by both Government and EU in an endeavour to create a conducive environment towards good governance, human rights, democracy and rule of law.

1.2 Public Finance and Public Sector Management Reforms

Mobilization, allocation and spending of financial resources is guided by the Public Finance Management Act. The Act provides a set of laws, systems and processes used to mobilize revenue, allocate public funds, and undertake public spending and account for funds used vis-à-vis the results. To enhance the Public Finance Management (PFM) system, the Government in 2016 established a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) meant to strengthen Parliament’s Budget and Financial oversight function. However, the PBO’s capacity still needs to be enhanced technically (staff establishment still low) and financially (resources not adequate).

1.3 IMF Staff Monitored Programme (SMP)

Through the SMP government made commitments to adhere to reforms that are key to usher in a stable macroeconomic environment. The SMP is monitored on a quarterly basis. Successful implementation will assist in facilitating the reengagement with the international community process.

The policy agenda that were developed under the SMP period include the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. The IPRSP was produced with support from the EU and other Development Partners. Commitment includes:

- Emphasis on fiscal consolidation,
- Elimination of central bank financing of the fiscal deficit,
- Adoption of reforms that allow market forces to drive the effective functioning of foreign exchange and other financial markets.
- Protection of the country’s most vulnerable people. It is key to note that the IMF team and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development agree on macroeconomic policies and structural reforms that can underpin a Staff Monitored Program. The IMF Team in their visits to Zimbabwe also engages with Civil Society Organisations which is key in gathering the inputs and reflections of non-state actors on the SMP progress.

According to the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA, 2017), there is generally consistent underperformance of aggregate revenue estimates with expenditure significantly above budget, leading to budget deficits far higher than budgeted in each year assessed. It is critical to note that there was no strict adherence to the PFM Act. Further concerns are noted in the following:

- Formal budget calendar not followed consistently and this results in a congested budget cycle with most key activities during the last quarter
- No steps taken to authorize unbudgeted expenditures through supplementary appropriation as required by the Constitution and Public Finance Management Act.
- Public debt exceeds the limit set out in the Debt Management Act, the PFMA obligation to table audited consolidated financial statements in Parliament has not been met.
- As a result of the compressed calendar, Ministries, Departments and Agencies are not provided adequate time to develop estimates and allocations.
- Parliament Budget Office is not provided adequate time to analyze and query allocations
Table 1: PEFA Performance score for Zimbabwe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
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<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget reliability</td>
<td></td>
<td>Policy based fiscal strategy and budgeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggregate expenditure outturn</td>
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<td>Macro-economic and fiscal forecasting</td>
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<td>Expenditure composition outturn</td>
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<td>Fiscal strategy</td>
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<td>Revenue outturn</td>
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<td>Medium term perspective in expenditure budgeting</td>
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<td>Transparency of public finances</td>
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<td>Budget preparation process</td>
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<td>Budget classifications</td>
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<td>Legislative scrutiny of budgets</td>
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<td>Budget documentation</td>
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<td>Predictability and control in budget execution</td>
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<td>Central government operations outside financial reports</td>
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<td>Revenue administration</td>
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<td>Transfers to sub-national governments</td>
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<td>Performance information for service delivery</td>
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<td>Public access to fiscal information</td>
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<td>Fiscal risk reporting</td>
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<td>Internal controls on non-salary expenditure</td>
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<td>Public asset management</td>
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<td>Internal audit</td>
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<td>Debt management</td>
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<td>External scrutiny and audit</td>
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<td>Financial data integrity</td>
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<td>In year budgets and reports</td>
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<td>Annual financial reports</td>
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Source: http://www.pefa.org/assessments/zimbabwe-2018

Key

![Key Image]

Governance and Institution Building Pillar

• Public participation in the budget processes should be improved through publishing the budget calendar and legislating it for accountability. This allows for citizens to know when a process is about to take place hence allowing them to use publicly available platforms to engage in the processes.

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• All the commissions need to formulate a public strategy that ensures peace, tolerance, safety, security, upholding of human rights, and respect for the sanctity of life. This should include putting in place conflict early warning and early response mechanisms that ensure protection of women and children ahead of the elections. The commissions are reminded to recommend prosecution for criminal violations.
On the positive side, existence of some well-functioning systems - including comprehensive macro-economic forecasting, setting of aggregate fiscal targets, such as deficit and debt stock, as well as medium term expenditure planning - supports achievement of aggregate fiscal discipline. Those system strengths, however, are undermined by weaknesses that in particular may include inadequate impact analysis of revenue measures, limited effectiveness in Parliamentary scrutiny of budget estimates and of budget execution, bypassing of budget execution controls built into the integrated Public Financial Management System (PFMS) and accumulation of excessive payment arrears. The effect of the very substantial extra-budgetary operations on aggregate fiscal discipline is not known due to lack of consolidated data, which increases the risk of unintended macro-fiscal impact.

Figure 1: Trend in Availability of Key Budget Documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Budget Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive's Budget Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enacted Budget</td>
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<td>Citizens Budget</td>
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<td>In-Year Reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Year Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year-End Report</td>
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<td>Audit Report</td>
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</table>

Some of the key reforms that were undertaken by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development in view to improve the Open Budget Index and Ranking include:

• Produce and publish on time the in-year reports, Mid-term fiscal report, year end reports which were not previously produced for public consumption
• Produce and Publish citizen budget documents
• Review of the PFM Act

1.4 Judicial Competence, Integrity and Professionalism

The Judiciary is responsible for delivering justice to all the citizens in the country including the indigent and marginalized. In order to ensure that the Judiciary carries out its mandate with competence, integrity and professionalism there is need for capacity building and eradicating corrupt and rent seeking tendencies from the judiciary employees. Competency, integrity and professionalism of the Judiciary enhance the rule of law in the country creating a conducive environment for development.

According to the Open Budget Survey (2017) report, Zimbabwe is classified among countries that provide minimum budget information, with minimum opportunities for Civil Society and citizen participation in budgeting process as well as weak budget oversight. Zimbabwe’s ranking in the 2017 Open Budget Index was 87 out of 115 countries, with a score of 23/100, a marked decline from 35/100 in 2015. Fig 2 above shows that there has been consistency in the availing of the Pre-Budget Statement, Executive’s Budget Proposal to the public between 2012-2017. Whilst the Enacted Budget, was either published late or not published in 2015-2017, the Citizen Budget and Year End Reports have not been provided entirely between 2012-2017.
1.4.1 Decentralization of Services

In provinces across the country, 11 new courts with access ramps for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) were opened. The opening of the High Court Station in Mutare in May 2018 went a long way in reducing distances travelled by litigants in Manicaland and Mashonaland East provinces to access the services of the High Court. Three new courtrooms were constructed at the High Court in Bulawayo. The expansion allows for the deployment of more judges to the station and will improve the turn-around time of cases in the courts.

The Judicial Services Commission (JSC) streamlined corruption related offences from the normal run of cases in the courts by opening specialised courts in Harare, Bulawayo, Gweru and Masvingo as part of a pilot project.

1.4.2 Recruitment and Deployment of Judicial Officers

The JSC recruited 233 critical officers on a phased basis from July to November 2018. The recruited officers included 60 magistrates, assistant registrars, court interpreters and clerks of court. 57 of the new magistrates were deployed to various stations across the country to alleviate existing shortages of judicial officers.

In 2018, Zimbabwe was one of the worst ranked countries, coming 108 out of 113 countries in an annual World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index list, faring poorly in all categories that include: government powers, absence of corruption, open government, fundamental rights, order and security, regulatory enforcement, civil justice and criminal justice. Zimbabwe’s overall rule of law score places it at number 18 in the Sub-Saharan Africa.

1.4.3 Capacity Women and Vulnerable Groups to Exercise their Rights and Access to Justice

According to the Census (2012), wage income is more accessible to men than it is to women. About 75.6% of all Zimbabweans are poor and about 60% of these are women. On average, people cannot afford to pay lawyers for legal services and the situation is worse for women and girls who make up 51% of the Zimbabwean population. However, focus lies on the development of the normative protection and the capacity to provide justice by state institutions to women and indigent groups taking into consideration political, institutional and socio-cultural concerns affecting accessibility of justice.

1.4.4 Justice and Rule of Law

In order to promote access to justice and rule of law, the Government made efforts to decentralise services. This was done by opening specialised courts; renovating and rehabilitating existing courts; conducting training of judicial officers; reviewing court procedures and strengthening co-ordination within the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS) Platform.

As part of the continuing professional development of judicial officers, 122 judicial officers received human rights training. Training was also provided for officers of Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services (ZPCS).

For the Zimbabwe Republic Police, Human Rights are taught as a stand-alone subject during recruit training as well as conventional courses at Police Staff College. Professional Updating Centres (PUCs) conducted different trainings in their respective provinces. Content on Human Rights was included in all refresher and other courses.

In 2018, PUCs conducted trainings for all police officers in preparation for the national elections. The table below shows the total number of Police Officers/Members who were trained in courses covering Human Rights.
Table 1: Total Number of Police Officers Trained in Human Rights (2018-2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Number Trained 2018</th>
<th>Number Trained 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depot (Recruitment Training)</td>
<td>1 090</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff College</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUCs</td>
<td>47 066</td>
<td>1 552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>48 584</td>
<td>1 740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access to justice affects living conditions of marginalized populations. Thus, it is a key goal towards ensuring that everyone is aware of their rights nationwide. Disadvantaged people, particularly women, should be provided with adequate information in order to assert their rights through the legal system. The Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) has faced challenges in conducting legal and civic education workshops, providing legal services (especially in cases affecting women and children) and organising workshops during where clerks of court are equipped and trained with necessary skills to perform their role.

Legal aid provided by the Legal Aid Directorate (LAD) is limited as it has two working offices within Zimbabwe; one in Harare and another in Bulawayo. The location of these offices is not strategic to provide services to those who live outside of the two cities, in rural and hard to reach areas consequently limiting the number of indigent persons acquiring services from the Legal Aid Directorate.

1.5 Independence of the Parliament: Law Making, Oversight and Representation

Section 50 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe highlights the mandate of Parliament by stating that “Parliament shall make laws for the peace, order and good government of Zimbabwe”. Legislatures have basically, three roles that are universally recognized and these are legislative, oversight and representational forum for public debate and acting as an Electoral College in the election of the President in the event that the office becomes vacant. The STAB specifically evaluate the level to which capacity and independence of Parliament is strengthened with regards to law making, oversight and representation.
1.5.1 Efficiency of the Parliament

Parliament plays an oversight role at formulation stage of the national budget. In keeping with the provisions of Section 141 of the Constitution, Parliament conducted public hearings in 2018 on the 2019 National Budget. This process afforded the public an opportunity to contribute towards national budget formulation. However, the public hearings were mainly confined to urban centres leaving out remote and hard to reach areas. At the same time, the notices for the meetings were given too close to the date and time of the public consultations and the meetings were not adequately publicized in relevant local newspapers and platforms. As a result the participation of the broader citizenry, especially women and the youth, in these processes was curtailed.

Parliament Portfolio Committees conducted several public hearing meeting to gather the views of the public on the legislations to be passed in parliament. We note that the public hearing methodology is critical as it endeavors to get input from the general citizenry in national development processes. Monitoring of these public hearings revealed the following:

- Invitations to the public to attend the meetings in a way is exclusionary, it does not reach out to all concerned
- Some of the venues used exclude persons with disabilities and even the materials that will be distributed most not disability friendly.
- In other parts public participation is crowded out by local Government Officials.
- There is a balance in terms of targeted areas for public hearing including both rural and urban areas

Parliament in 2018 was able to influence budget changes; namely the Health Vote and Parliament Vote. As part of its monitoring role, Parliament continued, through the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) to demand accountability from Ministries including through the regular submission of quarterly reports in terms of the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA). This enhanced its oversight role on Ministries. However, Parliament needs to be stern in its standing orders to manage errant Ministries that fail to comply with the PFMA reporting requirements.

Section 149 of the Constitution provides for Parliament to embrace the concept of petitions thus, in 2018 alone Parliament received 83 petitions from CSOs and individual citizens. This is a positive indicator that Parliament is opening public participation channels.

In 2018 Parliament conducted public hearings on all Bills that were introduced in the House for consideration. This is in compliance to section 141 of the Constitution, which requires consultation of the public on all Bills. Be that as it may, the public hearings, in most instances, were poorly attended mainly due to poor publicity methods and lack of effective mobilization strategies by Parliament. There is need in future for Parliament to partner with various CSOs country wide in order to improve on mobilization of the citizens for such processes.

1.5.2 Alignment of Laws to the Constitution

During the period under review, 14 Acts of Parliament were enacted by the last session of the previous parliament which ran from 12 September 2017 to 29 July 2018. One bill was not attended to, while three other Bills were expected to be considered early in the forthcoming session. In his official opening of the First Session of the Ninth Parliament, His Excellency President, Emmerson Mnangagwa, read the legislative agenda and indicated that the following Bills and International Instruments would be tabled in Parliament for consideration;
1.6 Electoral administration: Free and Fair Elections in a Transparent and Inclusive Way

During the course of the life of the last Parliament, in the 5th Session, Parliament made legislative amendments to the Electoral Act. Some of these were derived from petitions by CSOs demanding enhancement of the electoral process. The Executive continues, despite previous promises, to treat elections as an event, and bring event-based amendments towards an election. This tends to leave a lot of issues out as the charged electoral atmosphere allows little room for other matters to be incorporated. The Electoral Law continues to suffer criticisms of not being inclusive and fair to all contestants. Government only amended the Electoral Law leaving out other key pieces of legislation that have a significant bearing on the conduct of elections such as;

1. Public Order and Security Act (POSA),
2. Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA),
3. Broadcasting Services Act (BSA),
4. Citizenship of Zimbabwe Act
5. Rural District Councils Act,
6. Urban Councils Act,
7. Traditional Leaders Act

In the run up to the 2018 harmonized elections, the Executive made an undertaking to attend to all laws that impact on the conduct of elections. The above-mentioned laws were not amended to conform to best electoral practices. The adverse impact was characterized by post-election violence, contested results and other documented electoral malpractices. Opening up of election observation to various stakeholders was a commendable move by ZEC and the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Electoral Act provides for a Code of Conduct for Political Parties, Candidates and Observers. Whilst domestic observers applied for accreditation to ZEC, regional and international observers were invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. President Mnangagwa extended invitations to 46 countries, 15 organizations, and 2 eminent persons.

European Union and Commonwealth observers were invited for the first time since 2002. Other observer missions included the AU Election Observer Mission, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, SADC Election Observer Mission, SADC PF, Electoral Support Network of Southern Africa, Zimbabwe International Election Observer Mission- a joint (National Democratic Institute/ International Republican Institute observer mission, the Carter Centre Technical Team, the

Non-Aligned Movement, the Pan African Parliament, observers from liberation movements namely the Mozambique Liberation Front, Chama Cha Mapinduzi, the African National Congress, the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola, and observers from India, China, Russia, Turkey, Brazil, Ecuador, and other countries.
1.7 Constitutional Commissions: Effective Performance of Mandates

Chapter 12 of the Zimbabwean Constitution puts in place five Independent Commissions whose major roles are to enhance constitutionalism by promoting transparency and accountability in public institutions as well as entrenching human rights and democracy. The commissions are NPRC, ZHRC, ZMC, ZEC and ZGC.

In the original draft of the Electoral Amendment Bill, the Executive had sought to include the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) as part of the conflict management mechanisms under the Act. The Commission, and other stakeholders from civil society, strongly criticized this, as it would compromise its independence. The final amendments took into account this criticism. This enhanced the capacity of the Commission to investigate electoral malpractice, albeit with no conclusive results and actions taken thereafter.

In terms of the Electoral law, the Zimbabwe Media Commission (ZMC) is supposed to monitor media houses to ensure free, equitable and balanced coverage of all political players. However, the ZMC seemed to take a back seat, as it were, with regards to the 2018 Harmonized Elections. This allowed the state-controlled media to give more coverage to the ruling party and its candidates at the expense of other political players, a fact that was confirmed and condemned by International Observer Missions. At the same time, the Commission turned a deaf ear to public outcry over increased blatant verbal abuse on social media of women in politics, women in electoral administration and women in general during the election period.

The ZHRC was notably vocal on human rights abuses by state agencies as testified by its report on the killing of civilians by the military in August 2018. The Commission unequivocally pointed its finger on the state security agencies, and this did not go down well with the Executive, with the Minister of Justice Legal and Parliamentary Affairs dismissing the report as “overtly biased” against the state and claimed that it was based on “unsubstantiated” information. Such public statements by the Executive should be construed as covert intimidation to the Commission and also sending a signal to the other Commissions to “toe the line”.

In terms of Section 323 of the Constitution, all Independent Commissions are required to submit annual reports to Parliament, detailing their activities. However, all the five Commissions have not been complying with this constitutional requirement.

1.7.1 Coherent and Gender Sensitive Policy and Legislative Framework

The Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage is developing its National Migration Policy. By end of 2018 there was no comprehensive evidence on the ground to show that the drafting of the National Migration Policy had started. The policy is expected to guide empowerment of Zimbabwe’s migrants as well as maximize labor migration benefits for national development through remittances and investment promotion.

Government has also committed itself to create a conducive legal environment to guide migration in the country. During his State of the Nation Address to Parliament in 2018, the President mentioned the Immigration Amendment Bill and Citizenship of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill as part of the
legislative agenda. The two bills need to be harmonised with the Constitution. By end of year Parliament was yet to receive the bills.

The GoZ developed and adopted the National Referral Mechanism for Vulnerable Migrants in Zimbabwe (NRM). The NRM contains standard operating procedures for Victims of Trafficking (VoTs) and seeks to assist first line officials and other stakeholders to provide services that ensure that migrants’ protection needs are recognized and addressed in situations of mixed migration flows.

The GoZ continued to ensure that measures were put in place for the integration of VoTs back into their communities. For example, a shelter for VoTs was refurbished at Harare Hospital. Reintegration assistance in the form of support to start income generating projects, academic and skills acquisition was provided to 100 women. Additionally, medical and education support was provided for VoTs struggling with tuition and medical expenses.

As part of its policy direction in 2017 the Zimbabwe Anti-Trafficking Inter-Ministerial Committee (ATIMC) decentralised and establish 5 Provincial Anti-Trafficking Taskforce teams. The ATIMC is in the process of developing an updated National Plan of Action on anti-trafficking (NAPLAC2019-2023) to guide interventions. The GoZ with support from technical partners conducted two data collection workshops for frontline responders to TIP. The workshops targeted labour inspectors, social workers and members from civil society organizations. Training on human trafficking was provided for 10 magistrates and 19 prosecutors across the country.

1.7.2 Challenges

• Application forms provided at the Legal Aid Directorate use difficult and complicated terminology and it has been an inhibitor to prospective citizens accessing the Legal Aid Directorate services.

• For elections to be free, fair and credible, ZEC autonomy, transparency and preparedness to manage the 2018 elections was questioned thereby resulting in lack of confidence in ZEC’s professional integrity.

• All the other Independent Commissions only had an election observer status, which meant that they can only observe and not demand the election management body to take corrective measures where necessary. This lowers their role in ensuring the rights of citizens are enhanced in the electoral process.

• The Commissions have not had adequate financial and human resources, which has hampered delivery of their mandates.

1.8 Recommendations

In view to enhance the attainment of the governance and institution building pillar outcomes the barometer proffers the following recommendations for consideration.
1.8.1 Government

- Parliament should prioritize participation of marginalised communities and groups such as children, women, people with disabilities and youth through taking outreach meeting to the people, advertising them widely and timely.

- Public participation in the budget processes could be improved through publishing the budget calendar and legislating it for accountability. This allows for citizens to know when a process is about to take place hence allowing them to use publicly available platforms to engage in the processes.

- Government to embark on genuine comprehensive and inclusive electoral reform processes that considers all the aspects of an election. This should be done well ahead of the next elections to ensure that all the laws that need to be passed by Parliament are enacted in good time.

- The Government is called upon to expedite the formulation and implementation of a policy and legal framework to guide migration and anti-trafficking in Zimbabwe.

- All the commissions need to formulate a public strategy that ensures peace, tolerance, safety, security, upholding of human rights, and respect for the sanctity of life. This should include putting in place conflict early warning and early response mechanisms that ensure protection of women and children ahead of the elections. The commissions are reminded to recommend prosecution for criminal violations.

1.8.2 CSOs

- Given the low technical competence of the parliament vis-à-vis their important oversight role of the executive, there is need to for CSOs with relevant expertise to invest in programming that builds the capacity of parliamentarians so that they can effectively demand more transparency and participation of citizens in the budget process.

- CSOs to assist in the translation and distribution of copies of the Constitution to rural and hard to reach communities

- Advocate for the introduction of Constitution education in the schools curriculum, at the same time CSOs encouraged to use structures like the Junior Parliament and Junior Council to reach children with Constitution, policy and budget education.

- Assist with the simplification and translation into local languages the application forms provided at the LAD and to ensure access and use by indigent persons.

1.8.3 EU

- Consider prioritizing funding towards consolidation of the decentralisation of the High Courts through widening the coverage to include setting up of juvenile courts at district level.

- Also EU programming to further consider promotion of the decentralisation of the Legal Aid Directorate’s offices to ensure its services are reached by a greater number of people.
Agriculture Based Economic Development

2.1 Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of the Zimbabwean economy with potential to create opportunities for realisation of self-sufficiency, food security and surpluses whilst contributing to the development of the country’s economy.

The agricultural sector plays a key role in Zimbabwe’s socio-economic development. However, major constraints like limited access to inputs and credit, input/output market inefficiencies, lack of agricultural and rural infrastructure and limited investments in land, and reduced adoption of good agricultural practices contribute to food insecurity and low agricultural productivity. Direct investment in infrastructure and other tangible investments are, however limited; support was mostly towards relief, input support for crops and livestock, measures for market linkages and small-scale farmers training. Climate change has been noted as one of the chief threats facing agricultural development. The government committed, through the Zimbabwe Agriculture Investment Plan, to allocate at least 10% of the National Budget to agriculture in line with the Comprehensive Agriculture Development Program (CADP).

The agriculture sector provides livelihood for about 70% of the population, accounts for 23% of formal employment and supplies about 60% of raw materials to various industries. Agriculture also contributes 14 - 18.5% to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and approximately 33% of foreign earnings. However, agriculture's contribution to GDP fell from an average of 19% in 2000 to the present estimate of 13.6%. Several challenges have been identified in this initial barometer as inhibiting the growth and sustainability of the agriculture sector from achieving its full potential and contributing optimally to economic development.

2.2 Policy Assessment

The GoZ has within the past five years developed and reviewed five policies, in the area of agriculture, natural resources environment and climate change. These policies include National Climate Change Policy, National Climate Change Response Strategy, Nationally Determined Contributions, Zimbabwe Agriculture Policy Framework and Livestock Policy. This has been necessitated by the need to avert serious risks to food security that has been threatened by a plethora of issues within the agriculture sector, the environment and climate change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Policy Objectives</th>
<th>Resourcing</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Climate Change Policy1 April 2016</td>
<td>To guide climate change management in Zimbabwe, improve the national adaptive</td>
<td>2017-2018 National Budget and Development</td>
<td>Fits well into the Post-2015 global development agenda where climate change remains a key issue for</td>
<td>Lack of capacity of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and Climate Change Management Departments to carry out research on climate change through improved data collection and management, as well as climate modelling.</td>
<td>Improved governance structures that are gender sensitive, strengthened formal and informal institutions, strengthened disease surveillance systems, and development of a Public Health.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>captive, scale up mitigation actions, facilitate domestication of global policies</td>
<td>Partners</td>
<td>sustainable development, specifically, SDG 13 on climate action.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Adaptation to Climate Change Plan are some of the strategies that could be used to address climate change challenges.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and ensure compliance to the global mechanisms.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Enhance coordination and capacity of institutions responding to climate change challenges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Climate Change Response Strategy2</td>
<td>To mainstream an integrated response to climate change across all key economic</td>
<td>2017-2018 National Budget</td>
<td>It recognises the critical role of agriculture as sustainable development for Zimbabwe will hinge on</td>
<td>Weak early warning systems on cropping season quality, rangeland conditions, droughts, floods, disease/pest outbreaks and wildlife movement, in order to enhance farmer preparedness.</td>
<td>Innovative solutions for protecting lives and livelihoods and decreasing losses and damages to public and private property and critical infrastructure.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>sectors in order to minimize detrimental impacts and seize economic and social</td>
<td></td>
<td>a robust agricultural sector that supports rural and urban livelihoods.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>opportunities.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Framework/Source</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe Agriculture Policy Framework April 2012</td>
<td>To increase and sustain agricultural production and farm incomes, thereby ensuring household income and livelihood options</td>
<td>National Budget</td>
<td>It was operationalised through the Conservation Agriculture Strategy, part of a package of climate smart agriculture initiatives that allows agrarian communities to adapt effectively to climate change and variability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock Policy</td>
<td>To protect farmers by cutting off middlemen through ensuring that the marketing of livestock is regulated with the farmers getting the best out of their animals.</td>
<td>National Budget</td>
<td>It is the outcome of a developing reality that livestock particularly cattle and small ruminants are essential assets already available for solving the way out of poverty for a majority of the people, but require mobilisation for livelihood support, employment creation and export earnings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Stabilisation Program October 2018</td>
<td>Envisages greater involvement of the domestic financial system in underpinning financing of agriculture.</td>
<td>National Budget</td>
<td>Complementing Government/private sector partnership interventions under the Special Agriculture Production Programme, popularly coined ‘Command Agriculture’.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Government lacks an effective strategy of ensuring that individual farmers remain accountable for honouring repayment of obligations arising under extended financing facilities.</td>
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2.3 Investment and financing of the agricultural sector

In a bid to improve the investment climate, in 2017 the GoZ commenced the process of reforming investment laws and structures. The Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment (IEE) Act was reviewed in 2018 to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into the country. The review of the Act sends a positive signal that resonates with the Zimbabwe is open for business government rallying point which is earmarked to attract foreign investors. The impact of this review will be seen in 2019 going forward.

Reliable and affordable financing mechanisms are pivotal in increasing agriculture productivity. For instance, issuance of the 99 year leases enables farmers to use title leases as collateral when accessing loans from banks. It is also important for the sector to mobilise resources through the national budget, in partnership with cooperating partners that target vulnerable groups. For other categories of farmers, financial facilities should be arranged through the banking sector. It is expected that issuance of 99 year leases will enable more farmers to access these financing schemes.

Contract farming, if properly managed, has proved to be an effective way of financing agriculture. Contract farming arrangement is working well for crops such as tobacco where over 80% of the crop is under contract schemes. However, the contract scheme has not been effective in such crops as cotton, presenting a number of challenges, which in effect limit the scope, and expansion of the scheme to other crops. Of note, the cotton subsector and sugarcane subsector the Bank has placed at the disposal of small scale farmers a total of US$10 million i.e. US$5 million for cotton and US$5 million for sugarcane. These agricultural interventions have been made possible by the opportunities arising from the numerous facilities extended by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe facilities that include US$70 million Export Facility, US$10 million Horticulture Facility and US$10 million business linkages and value addition. These are much cheaper funds for small-scale farmers and large corporates.

The government through the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development assured prioritisation and promotion of contract farming activities with a focus on instituting appropriate regulatory environment that mutually protects farmers and financiers. The increase in the number of tobacco and cotton merchants operating in Zimbabwe is testimony that the operating environment has been relaxed for agri-business firms. For example there was an increase in the number of tobacco contract firms from 20 in 2017 to 30 in 2018, whilst the number of cotton merchants increased to 6 in 2018 up from 3 the previous year. Effective investment and financing of agriculture is also linked to a culture of honoring debts. Most beneficiaries have been accused of unwillingness to pay for the advances. This has been attributed to a number of factors that include high interest charges placed on input costs and low yields. Some financiers especially in the tobacco and maize sector have resorted to the restoration of the stop order system in a bid to facilitate timeous payments by farmers.

An improved investment climate has been evidenced by a major boost of the coffee sector with the injection of US$1.25 million by a Swiss based Multi National Cooperation, Nestle Africa. The development will go a long way in integrating smallholder farmers in the Eastern parts of the country to global markets thereby raising the possibility of improved incomes and livelihoods.

At the number of investments in the agricultural sector on plantation estates, which were formerly managed, by the Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (ARDA) has also increased with almost half of them now under the control of joint venture partnerships involving domestic and foreign capital as well as ARDA. This increased interest in the agricultural sector is attributed to the liberalised economic environment underpinning the country’s policy thrust. However, this is likely to lead to increased production, food security, improved infrastructure and revenue inflows for the cash strapped GoZ. Some analysts have raised concerns as to the possible impacts of such joint ventures on local communities cautioning that it may lead to farmer displacements, although some are of the view that this might lead to improved local economic development.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Period of action</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
<th>Geographic location</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transforming Zimbabwe’s Dairy Value Chain for the Future</td>
<td>2019-2022</td>
<td>Address the root causes of underperformance in the Dairy Value Chain (DVC) in Zimbabwe by strengthening the linkages between production, processing and financing. Influence policies in the DVC, engage stakeholders and lobby for an enabling policy environment.</td>
<td>Project is still in the inception phase</td>
<td>Mapping exercise to be done starting April 2019</td>
<td>Small Holder Farmers, Medium and large scale farmers and their organizations, Dairy processors, Transporters, Feed suppliers, input suppliers, Vet Suppliers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value chain Alliance for Livestock upgrading and Empowerment</td>
<td>2019-2023</td>
<td>Linking marginalized but highly productive areas with urban consumers coming back to major urban centers.</td>
<td>Project still under inception phase</td>
<td>Manicaland, Mashonaland East, West and Central, Matabeleland North and South</td>
<td>Small to medium scale goat and pork producing farmers, Private businesses including independent butchers, low-income, high density populated areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive Poultry Value Chain (IPVC)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Increased productivity: to reduce mortality, to improve food conversion ratio, to improve biosecurity, to improve extension using ICT4D, manuals, etc. Increased production: To enable businesses and hubs to expand their operations and out grower schemes, marketing campaigns for chicken meat and eggs. Increased profitability: Replicable feed production/distribution models, lower feed cost; use of digital extension to reduce costs. Improved access to finance: Project will provide consultancy services to</td>
<td>Project still under inception</td>
<td>Mutare, Harare, Gweru, Masvingo and Bulawayo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2018 - January 2023</td>
<td>Zimbabwe Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Services</td>
<td>project promotes the essential interconnectivity of agricultural education, research and extension for ensuring relevant and up-to-date knowledge for farmers and private sector. Project will promote Agricultural Centres of Excellence (ACE) as a focal point for integrated knowledge and innovation services, bringing together agricultural research, education and extension.</td>
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2.4 Agriculture Financing

Financing for agriculture is drawn from the national budget and development partners. Budget allocation, disbursement and execution are critical in supporting agriculture based economic development.

**Figure 1: Trends in Proportion of Budget Allocation to Agriculture Sector**

![Trends in Proportion of Budget Allocation to Agriculture Sector]

**Source: National Budget Statements**

Budget allocation towards the agriculture sector has been progressively increasing over the last four years. Most notably in 2018 the budget allocation stood at $497 381 000, an increase from $291.6 million in 2017. In 2018 the Government managed to meet the Maputo Declaration, which states that at least 10% of National Budgets should be allocated to agriculture. The support has been going mainly towards provision of inputs to communal and resettled farmers with limited support channeled for purchasing mechanical inputs like tractors and combined harvesters. For example in the 2015/2016 and 2017/2018, agriculture seasons food grains produced by local farmers managed to surpass the national requirements (Mazwi et al 2018). The negative effect has been the budget deficits that have been reported by Treasury over the years.

Under the sector, central government budget support has embraced the Input Pack Scheme for the vulnerable households covering grain, livestock and lately cotton as well as soya beans: payment for Grain Delivered by farmers; irrigation support scheme; extension services; and agricultural mechanization. These seek to improve the production that benefits the disadvantaged rural and resettled farmers.

While the various interventions would have had a direct impact on livelihoods of communities and households, the declining budget support levels as a result of reduced fiscal space has affected this endeavor. Cash flow challenges have also often resulted in late availability of inputs as well as payment to farmers hence compromising productivity. As earlier noted, some of the highest poverty levels are evident even in resettled areas. Sampled farmers in Zvimba District commended the program of input provision, but however expressed disappointment over the late supply and at times the inadequacy of the inputs provided.
During the period of analysis three government schemes that promote access to agricultural inputs by farmers were in place. These projects include the Presidential Agriculture Input Scheme, Command Agriculture Scheme and Contract Farming.

Politicization of agriculture was evident in the way farmers commented on the effectiveness of these schemes, with most farmers choosing responses based on their political affiliation rather than genuine observations on the ground. For example, most of the farmers who praised the schemes were aligned to the ruling party and had received a slightly larger allocation of inputs. As alluded to earlier on farmers are not happy with the late supply of inputs and they feel that it negatively impacts on their production and productivity.

Command Agriculture scheme endorsed by the Government of Zimbabwe during the 2015 to 2016 farming season was meant to mobilize sustainable and affordable funding for the agricultural sector where farmers were meant to benefit from the agricultural inputs in an endeavor to boost production of strategic crops to restore sanity in the provision of adequate food and nutrition to the rural populace. The government prescribed the types of crops to be produced by farmers, determined the volumes to be produced and set the price at which the produce was to be sold.

Farmers, Agriculture Extension Officers and Grain Marketing Board Officials interviewed in Zvimba District were of the view that, despite the command scheme’s shortcomings, the program had improved their household food security and incomes when compared to other labor intensive crops such as tobacco. Research shows that farmers over the years have been pulling out of tobacco contract farming and opting for maize production under command agriculture due to low interest rates charged on inputs, better incomes and less labor intensity of the commodity, Chemura et al (2018).

Critics of this arrangement, however, argue that failure by the resettled farmers to produce adequate yields to match the food requirements of the ever growing population and the escalating demand for exports to quench the existing food deficits in the country did not warrant government to adopt a command agrarian system as they opine that there is need for farmers to have the liberty to acquire agricultural inputs from suppliers of their own choice without strings attached and market their produce in liberalized open markets where super profits can be realized. Nevertheless, proponents as cited by Pfukwa perceive adoption of such schemes, which are regarded an offshoot of a command economy structure vital as they give governments the autonomous power to control all economic activities surrounding the production and marketing of strategic crops.

Other input scheme were co-administered by the United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Ministry of Agriculture was funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the European Union, and Zimbabwe’s agriculture ministry. The Agriculture Input Scheme was targeted at communal farmers for inputs and tools for agriculture and was subsidized at the level of 90%, with farmers expected to pay 10% of the costs.

The inputs were distributed through agro-dealers who were selected by FAO and were situated in the selected communities and have the ability to stock up to appropriate levels. Farmers were given a voucher with US$128 and were to top it with $35 so that they could redeem it at the agro-dealer’s shop. Agro-dealers stocks comprise of seeds, fertilizers, and tools such as ploughs, wheelbarrows and small implements. This subsidized voucher scheme was hailed by farmers and agriculture experts. Farmers in Mudzi ranked the scheme positively as they emphasized that the selection of beneficiaries was politically neutral and the scheme enrolled almost 95% of households in each village. Analysts pointed to the scheme’s effectiveness on the structure of input packs where farmers were given an opportunity to select the quantities and composition of the voucher basket on their own, thereby optimally deploying resources. Since farmers were to contribute 10% of the costs of the inputs, it assisted them to prioritise their requirements and avoided hoarding.

2.5 Access to Inputs and Services by Farmers

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2.7 Natural Resource Management, Economic Development And Poverty Reduction

Zimbabwe is endowed with various natural resources that have the potential to contribute meaningfully to the development of the country. Twelve percent of the land is protected national parks and 2.6% is State forests. However, the state of the natural resources has been deteriorating owing to deforestation, siltation and soil erosion. Various natural resources management programs are being implemented to conserve the natural resources and foster their contribution to national development.

The Ministry of Environment, Tourism and Hospitality responsible for natural resources management in the country, together with the EU, is in the process of implementing the CAMPFIRE project in the conservancy areas such as Save Valley and the southern low-veld. Through the project, the government seeks to promote wildlife and human coexistence through implementing livelihood options that ensure that resettled farmers living in areas where crop production has limited potential will engage in profitable, equitable and sustainable use of wildlife and land.

According to the team leader of the Technical Assistance Support to Natural Resource Management in Zimbabwe, the project to date has not been fully operational as government is still in the process of finalizing the policy documents to guide the implementation of the project.

The agricultural sector has the potential to make a significant contribution to poverty reduction in Zimbabwe. The sector is the backbone of Zimbabwe’s economy and will continue to be so for the foreseeable future. Although contributing less than one fifth of total GDP, it provides livelihoods for 70 percent of the population, including many of the poorest. In addition, historically, close to half of total export earnings have originated from agriculture and forestry. It is thus a key sector in determining overall economic performance.

In terms of food security, from the 2015/16 to 2017/18 agricultural seasons, cereal availability requirements surpassed those of the previous seasons and there was meaningful improvement in maize production.
The general improvement in cereal availability is attributed to a number of factors which include improved rainfall patterns as well as the state-led command agriculture programme which rolled out inputs to middle to large-scale farmers thereby impacting on maize productivity. Fig 6 below shows the number of food insecure households at national level.

It is however worth noting that despite the general increase in the availability of cereals, the number of food insecure households did not correspond with the cereals available at national level. For example, during the years when national cereal production was highest in the 2015/16 and 2016/17 agricultural seasons, the highest number of food insecure populations was also recorded during that period (2.8 million and 4.1 million respectively). The lack of relationship between cereal availability and food security is partly explained by the fact that national cereal availability does not amount to food security at household level.

**2.8 Competitiveness of agribusiness: Regional integration of the i-EPA (EU-ESA)**

The EU-ESA interim EPA was signed between the EU and Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar, and Zimbabwe in Mauritius on 29th August 2009. The interim Agreement contains provisions concerning rules of origin, development cooperation, fisheries, trade defense instruments and dispute settlement. This Agreement constitutes a stepping-stone to a wider and comprehensive deal currently under negotiation between the EU and the ESA region, taking into account the development dimension for the ESA signatory countries.

The areas potentially covered by the full Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) go beyond trade in goods to include services and investment, as well as trade-related areas such as sustainable development, competition, Trade Facilitation as well as further improvement in trade in goods and rules of origin. The challenge has been the variance between the EPA and the national development strategies such as the TSP its predecessor policies. At the same time, the EPAs are at variance with other regional trade agreements such as the African Continental Free Trade Area and SADC Trade Protocol, which are set to boost national sustainable development.

The STAB finds that although the safeguard mechanism within EPA are progressive, it however is difficult for Zimbabwe country to have a clear justification in terms of the impact that goods from the EU markets are disadvantaging locally produced goods. Also, the provision to abolish export taxes imposes a negative consequence to the local industry rather than adding value, through opening up of avenues to export more of raw materials rather than finished products.

Source: ZIMVAC report 2018
2.9 Challenges

• Newly resettled farmers face financing challenges and this inhibits them from fully utilizing their land. Much of their farmland is left idle resulting in underutilization of land and the end result is food insecurity and over-dependence on imports.
• The private sector, especially banks, has been reluctant to accept the 99-year leases that are held by farmers as security due to tradability setbacks

• While small scale farmers can produce large quantity agricultural outputs like grain and horticultural products they find it difficult to access markets due to poor road networks.
• Accessibility to markets is not only hampered by dilapidated roads and poor road networks but also by inaccessibility to marketing information and choices.
• Use of rudimentary technology continues to hamper increase in agricultural production. The adaptation of new and modern farming technology has been very slow especially amongst small-scale farmers who continue to use conservative and labor intensive tools of trade.
• Agricultural production of late is being hampered by droughts caused by climate change. The climate change phenomena require that farmers cease reliance on natural rainfall as it has become erratic and unpredictable requiring alternative water sources such as irrigation or use of different farming methods. Addressing these challenges enables households to earn a decent living and enables the country to fight poverty through agricultural production. However, smallholder farmers face challenges of weak farmer education on alternatives to traditional agriculture, and drought resilient crops amongst others.
• Stringent rules for example those to do with the sanitary and phytosanitary standards have been a hindrance as local industry does not have the technology to meet these standards, at the same time the country has no capacity to monitor the required standards.
• Feedback from GoZ with regards to various progress on the EPAs has not been available thereby leaving stakeholder including CSOs unaware of the implementation progress.
• Recommendation to EU- There is need for CSO involvement in the development of the framework and actual monitoring of the EPA

2.10 Recommendations

In order to improve agriculture based economic development outcomes the barometer puts forward the following recommendations for consideration.
2.10.1 Government

1. The state has to develop a policy framework for provision of affordable inputs that will guide donors, the private sector, and agro-dealers.
2. In order to depoliticize inputs distribution, there is need to have a clear separation of duties between state personnel and political party officials in the identification, registration, vetting and allocation of state and donor supported inputs.
3. For effective natural resources management, GoZ should ensure the progressive realization of managing natural resource rights by communities.
4. GoZ to foster consistent regulatory import and export policies.
5. GoZ to prioritise rural road infrastructure development to aid transportation of agriculture produce.

2.10.3 EU

1. To consider more channeling more resources (technical and financial) towards implementationof household specific programs that tackle the challenge of food and foster resilience.
2. To prioritise technical and financial support towards availability of local and international market information and options for farmers.
3. The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund should prioritise farmer education on alternatives to traditional agriculture, and drought resilient crops amongst others.
4. For EPA to be beneficial to Zimbabwe; EU to consider supporting interventions that enhance the economic production and diversification programs.

2.10.3 CSOs

1. To give more capacity building to small scale farmers to adapt to new and modern farming technology.
Health

3.0 Introduction

Section 3 gives an assessment of the implementation and results under the health pillar. Through the NIP Government made commitments to improve the health outcomes of the country through apportionment of adequate public resources, development of Health Policies and strategies. Thus the key thrust of the section is to assess the NIP projects within the health sector and examine the administrative, policy, legal and financial developments for the period 2014 until 2018.

The disease burden from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) continues to increase based on projections. While HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis and other communicable diseases have been long and traditionally attributed to many deaths, the less talked about non-communicable diseases are quietly killing many Zimbabweans and are placing a heavy burden on the national health delivery system. According to statistics in Zimbabwe, cardiovascular diseases like heart attack and strokes account for 9% of deaths from NCDs, while 10% of deaths were a result of cancer illnesses.

3.1 Health Financing

The provision and regulation of healthcare services in Zimbabwe falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC). Government therefore has the primary obligation of financing the health services provision as guided by the National Health Strategy (2016-2020). However, most of the finances for the health sector in Zimbabwe are coming from the donor community with Government funding covering mostly recurrent expenditure. Government funds the health sector mainly through the National Budget while the donor community pools its resources through the Health Development Fund. Global Fund also supports health service provision in Zimbabwe focusing on three diseases i.e. HIV and AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis.

3.2 Program Based Budgeting

The Ministry of Health and Child Care is one of the line Ministries which were prioritized in the 2016 National Budget in terms of introduction of the Programme Based Budgeting. Program-Based Budgeting is a form of budget that organizes the budget around objectives and this is a major departure from the line budget which organizes budgets around inputs. As such, the PBB complaint budget presents a set of programs and subprograms with clear policy objectives. Further, the programs outlined in a PBB budget have a set of indicators which are a tool for measuring whether objectives are being met. The reform is key in enhancing national budget effectiveness in supporting the health sector.
3.3 External Financing for Health in Zimbabwe

Global Fund and the Health Development Fund (HDF) remain the major sources of external financing for health in Zimbabwe. The two were expected to contribute a combined total of US$231.9 million in 2018. The Global Fund seeks to promote innovative solutions to global health challenges despite its focus on only three diseases. The HDF is a multi-donor pooled fund designed to improve reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (RMNCH+A) and nutrition in Zimbabwe between 2016 and 2020. The HDF’s goal is to contribute to reducing maternal mortality (by 50%) from 614 and under-5 mortality (by 50%) from 75, by ensuring equitable access to quality health services for women and children by 2020. It will also contribute to the reduction of the unmet need for family planning to 6.5%, halving the prevalence of stunting in children under-5 from 28% and eliminating MTCT by 2020, combating HIV and AIDS, Malaria and other prevalent diseases.

All of the HDF interventions are guided by the National Health Strategy 2016-2020 and led by the MoHCC, with a focus on equity and quality of health services including reaching specific vulnerable populations such as newborns, adolescents and people living in hard to reach communities. An independent evaluation of the HDF has shown that the fund is relevant to the needs of the country and that it performs very well against the key principles of aid effectiveness like ownership, alignment and harmonisation, with the highest scores for delivery of results and mutual accountability.

3.4 National Budget Allocation To The Health Sector

There was a significant increase in the National Budget allocation towards health care in 2018. The MoHCC was allocated a total of US$473.9 million in 2018, which is 68.1% higher than US$281.98 million allocated in 2017. This includes the additional US$65 million that was allocated following serious lobbying by the Parliament to increase the health budget. The total budget allocation to health represents 8.3% of total expenditure, some 1.4 percentage points up from 6.9% in 2017. Although the 2018 budget allocation is higher in both absolute and relative terms, it remains below the Abuja target of at least 15%. At 8.3% of the total budget, the 2018 health care budget allocation is 6.7 percentage points lower than the 15% budget share recommended under the Abuja target. This allocation to health is not even adequate to cover recurrent expenditure within the health sector, properly remunerate personnel which has seen an increase in jobs actions thereby compromising health delivery.

3.5 Budget Execution

High execution rate was achieved in 2017 compared to previous years. By end of September 2017, US$286.02 million had been disbursed to the health sector, against an allocation of US$282.5 million – translating to a budget execution rate of 101% and 6.3% of the total US$4.534 billion expenditure to September 2017. While the overall picture may seem impressive, a disaggregated analysis shows that most of this expenditure is recurrent, with US$155 million having been spent on employment costs.
There have been significant improvements in the overall health budget performance over the recent past. Actual health budget execution rate rose from 70% in 2013 to 101% by September 2017. However, the composition of this expenditure continues to be heavily skewed towards employment costs which have consumed almost 70% of actual spending leaving only 30% for capital expenditure.

Notwithstanding the funding support through the NIP towards the health sector and the significant increase in the allocation towards health care between 2015 and 2019 i.e. 6.57% in 2015, 7.46% in 2016, 6.9% in 2017, 8.3% in 2018 and 8.9% in 2019 the country’s public health care system continues to face critical funding challenges and budget support towards health remains short of the sector requirements.

Besides this positive development from the fiscal perspective and some tangible improvement in some key health indicators, the progress still substantially falls short of the SADC average budget share of around 11.3%, the 15% Abuja Declaration target and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets. Risks are high that the country will miss out on the SDGs targets for health. In addition, the progress remains uneven as the poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups remain worse off. This therefore, necessitates a need for equitable health care spending by the Government.

3.6 Access to maternal, neonatal, child health services and comprehensive approach to sexual and reproductive health.

Maternal mortality remains high at 440 per 100 000 live births in 2018 and as a result the country will not meet SDG 3 and the National Health Strategy target of 70 per 100 000 live births respectively. The child mortality rate also remains high at 23 per 1000 deliveries in 2018. Reports show that high maternal mortality is still driven/aggravated by pregnancy or its daily management. This is despite the 3% increase in sanitation coverage in 2018 which translates to 35% total coverage, and as well as the significant contributions by the Health Development Fund (HDF) to support Zimbabwe Expanded Programme on immunization and the participation of other CSOs under the Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescence Health (RMNCH+A) programmes.

In addition, the HDF rolled out a solar for health project, partly meant to address difficulties in providing quality maternal and new-born services and child immunization, especially for complicated pregnancies and premature babies. The project targeted over 1700 health facilities, mostly in the rural areas. For instance, by 3rd quarter of 2018, 85 health centers had received solar suitcases and a further 211 Solar Direct Drive Refrigerators had been installed. The HDF had also earmarked installation of a sustainable energy packages in 30 health facilities, and as well as provision of support to mother groups on nutrition and cook stoves.
3.7 Epidemic diseases timely detected and controlled and burden of Non Communicable Diseases reduced

The second largest cholera outbreak in 10 years befell the country in September 2018, affecting Harare’s high density suburbs of Glen View and Budiriro before escalating to other cities and towns. By December 2018 more than 10,000 cases including 65 deaths across the country had been reported. During the same year a typhoid outbreak was also recorded in Gweru. These outbreaks demonstrate that the country’s surveillance and response capabilities are still acutely degraded or non-functioning as provided for in The International Health Regulations 2005 guidelines.

3.8 Increased population coverage related to preventable conditions or diseases

Improvements in coverage were recorded mainly in donor-funded programmes targeting specific diseases and conditions. For instance, following the cholera outbreak, development partners and the multi-donor Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), spearheaded a collective response to the crisis through the distribution of multi-media materials promoting good sanitation and hygiene practices for cholera prevention, treatment and control within the affected communities. However, this partnership was short term, not replicable and unsustainable and thus the country remains weak to respond to preventable conditions or diseases.

There were also notable improvements in malaria case management and vector control. By 3rd quarter 2018, 100% and 101% of malaria cases had received a parasitological test at public health facilities and in the community respectively. In the same period, only 31% of pregnant women attending antenatal clinic had received three or more doses of intermittent preventive treatment for malaria, (Programmes Coordination Unit Update CCM 5 December 2018).

The public health systems continues to struggle to respond to the burden of Non Communicable Diseases (NCD). Apart from programmes supporting cervical cancer screening, clients depend on out of pocket payments to access services. In most cases, service access is characterized by catastrophic costs which often result in higher treatment defaulter rates. In Makoni, Chipinge, Rusape communities indicated how they do not have access to effective community education, preventive services, screening and early detection, or adequate primary cancer care, and thus, tend to go to health centres and hospitals with late stage cancer diagnosis that are incredibly difficult to treat. As a result, late diagnosis of most cancers complicates the treatment of the disease hence the need for awareness to improve knowledge of risk factors, screening, and earlier health seeking behavior. Access to screening, early detection, diagnostics and palliative care services is also limited due to resource constraints. Zimbabwe only has two Radiotherapy treatment centres, one in Harare and the other one in Bulawayo. To access these facilities, patients must part with a lot of money (US$3000-US$4000) for the whole session which is beyond the reach of many, (NCPCSZ 2014-2018).
3.9 Improved organisation and management of services

Whilst the architectural organization of health services has not changed, observations are that management of services declined due to poor coordination and communication along the organizational structure. For instance, some district hospitals were not using the Programme Finance Management System (PFMS) and others were not aware of the solar for health project.

3.9.1 Human resources for health numbers, skills and distribution optimized

The government maintained the recruitment freeze, and as a result the health sector continued to experience understaffing with very high doctor to patient ratios. Reports show that clients were generally unable to consult a doctor even when experiencing complications. At the same time, health care workers reported being overstretched and struggling to cope with demands for services. The situation is worsened especially when health care workers attend capacity building trainings. The trainings are offered by either the MoHCC or CSOs to enhance skills of health care workers in line with emerging trends.

There are also challenges with the skills training initiatives, with health care workers reporting favoritism and nepotism in the selection of participants. Trainees report having been furnished manuals and other training materials for reference. However, it should be noted that some health care workers have not participated in related activities in more than two years.

3.9.2 Primary Health Care infrastructure including availability of basic services (water, electricity, waste management) adequate according to the level of care.

Major infrastructure development projects were supported by the HDF and the GF include the solar for health project, targeting over 1700 health facilities, mostly in the rural areas. By 3rd quarter of 2018, 85 health centers had received solar suitcases and a further 211 Solar Direct Drive Refrigerators had been installed. UNDP also provided solar panels to selected district and rural health facilities. Nonetheless, the solar provide power and lighting to selected sections which has resulted in poor ownership among health care workers as they feel the solar panels are not directly benefiting them. In terms of water, some facilities report experiencing erratic supply and broken down boreholes. As a result clients are forced to bring their own water when visiting facilities for consultations.
3.9.3 Improved access to and better utilization of health services by the most at risk group of the population

Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) services coverage reached 93% by 2018 and 89% of children (0-14 years) living with HIV had access to ARV (UNAIDS 2018). The improvements are attributed to the community mobilization activities conducted by CSOs in partnership with the MoHCC. However, there remain challenges for pregnant women living with HIV to stay on treatment and these include the long distances they have to travel to health facilities, inadequate nutrition, discrimination and stigmatization. The women reported in some cases they were being divorced or vilified by the husband’s family members and as a result were left to take care of the pregnancy and at the same time come to terms with their positive HIV serostatus on their own. This was found to be a barrier to treatment, care and support.

In 2018, SRHR service provision for young people expanded, albeit targeting mostly adolescent girls and young women. Services are generally accessed through two main options; at health facilities and mobile deliveries through CSOs. Nonetheless, young boys are being left behind even in terms of access to information and knowledge. This often impacts on their ability to make informed reproductive and social choices which in turn increase personal vulnerability and as well as their young partners. This phenomena explains the surge in STIs among male artisanal miners.

3.9.4 Better health sector governance, management and financing

In 2018, the health sector governance, management and financing were generally characterized by perennial challenges which include drug and equipment shortages, strikes by health care workers and poor oversight of governance structures. For example, the National Aids Council continues to operate without a governing board which compromises decision making and corporate governance. With regards to funding, the allocations to health did not expand and this affects the capacity of public health facilities to address the unmet gaps.

In terms of management; whilst CSOs have started working on a framework to enhance coordination as part of the health sector management, there remains a challenge with the feedback mechanisms. CSOs receive no feedback from the HDF.

An enabling legal and policy environment is the cornerstone to public health care delivery and subsequent access and utilization by communities. In 2018, the country adopted the new Public Health ACT (Chapter 15:17) which covers a wide range of issues and includes redressing the imbalances created by the colonial legacy. Whilst the new law is a welcome development, access to comprehensive public care is curtailed in the Constitution which states that the right to services shall be delivered upon availability of resources. In addition, the general public remains oblivious to the provisions in the ACT and the state has not provided a mechanism to relate it to subservient policies and strategies. Apart from this, Zimbabwe also maintains restrictive laws which act as barriers to access to health care. For instance, whilst it has been shown that HIV prevalence among MSM and sex workers is 29% and 59% respectively (NAC 2018), yet the practice of homosexuality and sex work remains illegal. Furthermore, sections 79 and 80 of the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform Act) have been cited as discriminatory against people living with HIV and they have the tendency of reducing health seeking behaviours.

Noteworthy, although the NHS remains the main blueprint for the health sector, the strategy has not been subjected to a review to capture emerging epidemiological issues.
3.10 Sound policies, strategies and regulations for the health sector in place

The policy space is characterized by multiple policies and strategies that do not speak to each other and this continues to create implementation challenges, as it is not clear how they are coordinated and monitored. For example the NHS (2016-2020) which is due for review has not been subject to a mid-term review even when the country had adopted the new Public Health Act. The country has also missed the road map and key time lines on coming up with the National Health Insurance Scheme. Conversely, the implementation of ZNASP is still on track in guiding the HIV/AIDS response.

3.11 Community Participation and Involvement In Improving Health and Quality of Life

Whilst community participation increased through the Health Community Centers and Community Health Workers (CHW); they still exhibit limited capacity to track and monitor health care services. Another challenge identified is the lack of incentives for CHWs and as a result significant number has withdrawn their services. Some organisations such as Organisation for Public Health Intervention and Development (OPHID), ZAN and ZiCHIRe have established functional community structures. These have stirred community involvement through health centre committees at some local clinics to improve community-health facility linkages for provision of quality, integrated essential primary health care services. This has led to the establishment of mechanisms to improve accountability, promote dialogue and feedback between the community and health providers.

3.12 Challenges

- Weak coordination among service providers and weak institutional arrangements to operationalize the plan of action to revitalize the primary health care system among others. The ministry is still confronted with the adhoc implementation of programmes aimed at reducing the incidence of infectious diseases and maternal and child mortality rates. In addition, there is also over-reliance on once-off special campaigns rather than institutionalized maternal and child health services.
- Maternal mortality continues to exist because of factors such as poverty, delay in decision to seek care, delay in transportation and delay in receiving quality care, costs, user fees, long distances to rural clinics, insufficient budget allocation towards the health sector, distances to clinics where expectant mothers are supposed to receive antenatal care, lack of support from families, shortage of sufficient skilled personnel, use of unskilled personnel to attend to births and lack of information among pregnant women.
- Lack of harmonization of the multiple policies and strategies within the health sector impedes on implementation.
- Poor coordination and monitoring of health policies and strategies continue to be a cause for concern. as it is not clear how they are coordinated and monitored.
3.13 Recommendations

To enhance the outcomes of the NIP under the health pillar there is need to consider the following recommendations proffered in this barometer.

3.13.1 Government
1. The budget allocation to the health sector should be increased from current levels that fall short of the Abuja Declaration target of 15% with more funds set aside for non-recurrent expenditures. 
2. To harmonize the multiple policies and strategies within the health sector to facilitate effective implementation. 
3. To put in place an inclusive coordination and monitoring framework for health policies and strategies.

3.13.2 CSO
1. There is need to build community resilience, awareness, rapid response and strengthen their surveillance skills. 
2. There is need to continuously sensitize Village Health Workers (VHWs) and communities on the key guidelines and training materials on epidemic diseases. 
3. Increase the monitoring of the implementation of health policies, strategies and resources

3.13.3 EU
1. The HDF funding to comprehensively support the broader scope of health issues beyond reproductive, maternal, new born, child and adolescence health.
2. Comprehensive support needed in retaining and supporting core health workers at the primary level through the supply of primary care packages. 
3. There is need for continued support and capacity building in emergency preparedness and response for rapid detection and swift control of outbreaks.
The inaugural STAB has to a greater extent provided a framework through which progress in the implementation and results of the NIP can be assessed. This analysis has therefore, provided a baseline for further examination of how the NIP has contributed towards key development outcomes and impacted positively on the general citizenry. The setting up of a civil society driven monitoring architecture for the NIP will be key in further informing areas that need to be improved on throughout the implementation cycle.

However, a number of challenges were encountered in the development of this first series of the STAB, chief amongst them being the difficulty to access vital information from some key stakeholders within the NIP implementation phases, prioritization of the projects and results to track progress on, the spatial distribution of the various projects making data collection costly, lack of appreciation by key informants of the monitoring process with some viewing it as a project evaluation.

The analysis circumvented the above challenges by leveraging on some secondary data and similar processes that provided the key information that contributed to the development of this STAB.

The key findings of this STAB will form the basis for dialogue and engagement between Government, EU and Civil Society Organisations. The tripartite forum is key as it allows for the ongoing re-steering and recasting of the strategies and resources in view to facilitate the attainment of NIP results.

Broadly the STAB makes the following conclusions within the three pillars:

- Adequate funding and good governance is instrumental to the successful functioning of any institution including judicial institutions. Therefore, for the citizens of Zimbabwe to enjoy access to justice, there has to be adequate allocation of funds to run the judicial institutions by inter alia building adequate and disability friendly courts, employing and training personnel and ensuring adequate remuneration of judicial officers. This will ensure that there are enough courts to adjudicate upon cases, avoid incarceration of pre-trial detainees and reduce chances of bribery and corruption among judicial officers.

- Agriculture based economic development is highly dependent on compliance with policy frameworks and strategies and a substantial National Budget allocation. The country’s development is hinged on agriculture and the government should support the sector and promote Zimbabwean farmers in their different capacities to contribute towards ending food insecurity.

- The MoHCC, will have to strengthen synergies with development partners in order to attain improvement of health outcomes for all Zimbabweans and achieve SDG 3. The health sector also needs to improve its capacity to respond to emergencies like cholera outbreaks while also improving the capacity of clinics to reduce maternal mortality to a ratio below 510 per 100 000 live births. Based on the analysis of the health budget execution, the National Budget is still far from the SADC average budget share of around 11.3%, the 15% Abuja Declaration. The government should diligently play its role of ensuring compliance to the budget allocation for full realisation of the sector’s objectives.
Our Mission
We the community of NGOs, are committed to strengthen, represent and coordinate the work of NGOs in Zimbabwe by creating space, promoting networking, dialogue and engagement to enable the fulfilment of member’s visions and missions.

Our 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.

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