



Lessons learnt from implementation at local level and Voluntary Local Reviews in Zimbabwe

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2030 Agenda and AU Agenda 2063 in Africa: Building
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Presentation Outline

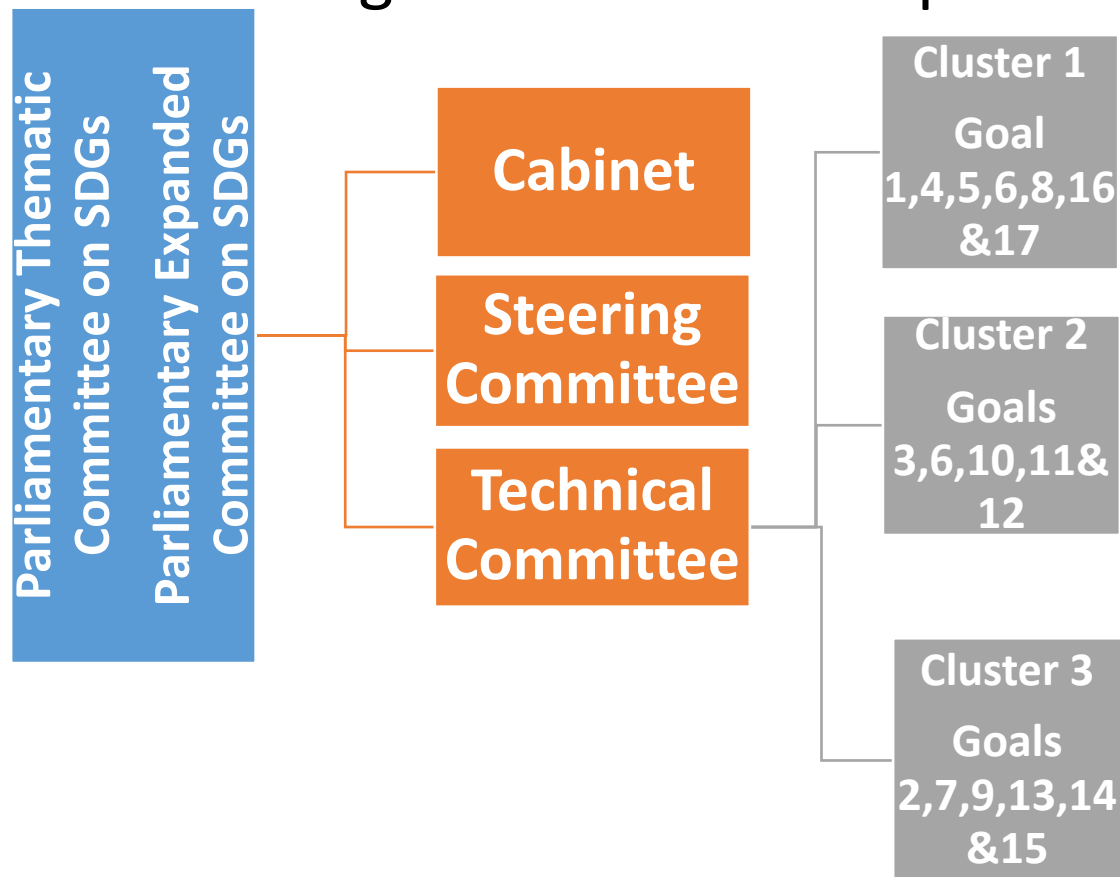
- ✓ Overview of SDGs implementation in Zimbabwe
- ✓ Conceptual Framework of VLRs
- ✓ Voluntary Local Reviews in Zimbabwe
- ✓ Lessons Learnt from Pilot VLRs
- ✓ Benefits of VLRs.



Overview of SDGs implementation in Zimbabwe



In Zimbabwe, the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 are implemented through national development plans.





LOCALIZING THE SDGs




10 +1 Priority Goals

- Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 2: Zero hunger
- Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals
- Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4: Quality education
- Goal 13: Climate action
- Goal 5: Gender equality
- + Goal 16



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A photograph of a person's hands holding a piece of wood, with a large red 'C' shape overlaid on the image. The person is wearing a colorful patterned garment. The background is dark and textured.

Conceptual Framework of Voluntary Local Reviews



Conceptual Framework



- Voluntary Local Review is a process in which authorities at sub-national level voluntarily review and follow-up implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the context of their respective areas.
- This process becomes a vehicle for sharing experiences, challenges and lessons learnt, as well as to open avenues for new partnerships to address problems (opportunity for improvement) the local authorities might be confronting.
- VLRs enable local authorities to engage communities in the process, thereby strengthening the accountability and inclusiveness of their policymaking.



Voluntary Local Review in Zimbabwe



Overview of local authorities in Zimbabwe

- The country has 92 local authorities.
- Of these, 32 are urban while 60 are Rural District Councils.
- The Councils are divided into 1958 administrative Wards that are led by elected Councilors.
- In rural areas traditional institutions that include Chiefs, Headmen and Village Heads are key to development planning and management.
- While all rural local authorities are generally of the same status in terms of influence and functions, Urban Councils are slightly different.



Urban Councils by Category

Tier 1 – Cities	Tier 2 – Municipalities	Tier 3 – Town Councils	Tier 4 – Local Boards
Harare	Redcliff	Chiredzi	Ruwa
Bulawayo	Beitbridge	Chipinge	Chirundu
Gweru	Chegutu	Lupane	Epworth
Masvingo	Chitungwiza	Plumtree	Hwange
Kadoma	Chinhoyi	Norton	
Kwekwe	Gwanda	Shurugwi	
Mutare	Marondera	Zvishavane	
Victoria Falls	Bindura	Gokwe	
		Rusape	
		Karoi	
		Chipinge	
		Mvurwi	
8	8	12	4



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- To date, 2 pilot Voluntary Local Reviews have been conducted, one for Harare and the other for Victoria Falls.
 - These were done under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in partnership with the Government of Zimbabwe.
 - Plans are afoot to cascade the VLR process to all the local authorities with priority being accorded to rural areas.
 - Work is in progress to conduct 4 VLRs that are expected to be complete during the first quarter of 2022.



Lessons learnt from the Pilot VLRs



- The local authorities have successfully integrated the 2030 Agenda in their Strategic Plans.
- Prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic, remarkable improvements had been noted at local level in SDGs 3, 4, 6, 9 and 11:
- The mobilization of adequate finance is important for the attainment of sustainable development. This requires proactive involvement and partnership of all stakeholders and the integration of various sources of finance.



- The SDGs must be fully integrated and mainstreamed into local authorities' development plans and strategies since they provide a platform for the localisation of SDGs.
- VLRs increasing public awareness, knowledge and perceptions of SDGs and empower local communities and citizens to take action in their own local communities.
- The Devolution agenda will accelerate sustainable development and enables communities to directly benefit from resource endowments within their local communities thereby contributing to the attainment of SDGs at local level.



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- VLRs reflect real progress being made in attaining SDGs since they are done at local level.
 - Can be utilized by policy makers to inform evidence-based development plans and interventions.
 - Enables people centered decision making that is more relevant to address problems being faced at the local level.
 - Vehicle to initiate local action, and people action that is required for the acceleration of SDGs implementation.



Benefits of VLRs



- VLRs provides a clear roadmap for more balanced and equitable development.
- VLRs provides a platform for localizing SDGs.
- Provides an opportunity for stakeholders (private sector, civil society, academia, residents, etc) to contribute to development.
- Enables sharing of experiences and best practices.
- Enhanced awareness of SDGs at local level.



Recommendations



- Various financing mechanisms should be put in place to address the financing gap among local authorities.
- Establishment of formal stakeholders' participation mechanisms to ensure inclusivity in national development.
- Strengthening of partnerships.
- Elaborate framework on how VLRs will be integrated into Voluntary Local Reviews.
- Decentralization and autonomous local governance framework to ensure that political, administrative and fiscal powers of local governments are commensurate with their responsibilities.



Thank you