Transformational Partnerships: national platforms and practical tools to promote collaboration, policy integration and coherence

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Introduction

• In Zimbabwe, the 2030 Agenda is being implemented through national development plans. Currently, National Development Strategy 1 (2021-2025) is running and will be followed by NDS 2 (2026-2030).

• The Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) plays a oversight role while the Ministry is Lead Coordinator supported by Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Rural Development, and Ministry of Health and Child Care.
Prioritized 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
Governance Structure

- **Parliamentary Thematic Committee on SDGs**
- **Parliamentary Expanded Committee on SDGs**

**Cabinet**
- Cluster 1: Goal 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 16 & 17

**Steering Committee**
- Cluster 2: Goals 3, 6, 10, 11 & 12

**Technical Committee**
- Cluster 3: Goals 2, 7, 9, 13, 14 & 15
• The technical committee is comprised of SDGs focal persons from Government Ministries, and United Nations Country Team.

• Clusters are also made up of Government focal persons responsible for the implementation of SDGs under that cluster, representatives of CSOs, private sector and other major stakeholders.
National Development Strategy 1

• Wide stakeholder consultations were done during the development of NDS1. The private sector, CSOs, the academia, Development Partners, Faith Based Organisations and other stakeholders contributed in formulating NDS 1.

• NDS 1 implementation and monitoring has its success hinged on strengthened partnerships.

• Regarding NDS 1 monitoring, Government is working together with the UN, World Bank and AfDB as well as CSO and academia.

• Whole of government and whole of society approaches are being used in implementation and monitoring of national development plans.
• NDS 1 Thematic Pilars are aligned to the Agenda 2030.

• In line with the principle of leaving no one and no place behind as enunciated in NDS 1, Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) put in place include various stakeholders such as private sector representatives, CSOs, academia, youth, PWDs among others.
SDGs Monitoring and Evaluation

• SDGs Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was developed to periodically track progress in the implementation of SDGs.

• Government ministries, UN Agencies, Development Partners, CSOs, private sector and other major groups work together to input current data to the SDGs M&E Framework.

• The Framework is aligned to national development plans and helps to track how the development plans are contributing to the attainment of SDGs.
• NDS 1 and SDGs alignment is being further strengthened.

• In 2021, with assistance from UNDESA and UN Country Team, Government and representatives from CSOs, PWDs, youths conducted a session on the alignment of NDS1 to SDGs.

• The focal persons who participated in the working session also contributed in formulating the NDS 1 Monitoring Framework.
2021 Voluntary National Review

• The Government and stakeholders worked together in conducting the country’s second Voluntary National Review in 2021.

• The 2021 VNR was a follow up to the 1st VNR conducted in 2017.

• The review covered all the 17 SDGs with in-depth analysis done for SDGs that were under discussion at the 2021 HLPF.
Voluntary Local Reviews

- Zimbabwe’s first Voluntary Local Reviews (Victoria Falls and Harare) were conducted in 2020 with assistance from ECA.
- Cabinet directed that the VLRs must be cascaded to all local authorities.
- The Government is currently working with UN Country Team, UNDESA, CSOs and other stakeholders to conduct 4 VLRs (2 urban and 2 rural) in 2022.
- The VLRs are meant to assess progress made in attaining SDGs at local level. VLRs will be cascaded to other local authorities.
Successes

• Partnerships are bearing fruit in fostering sustainable development in the country.

• Major achievements include the Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project where roads are being rehabilitated, clinics were constructed, sanitation facilities were also constructed at schools and clinics.

• The country’s achievements in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic was also a result of partnerships in awareness campaigns and provision of PPEs.

• Victim Friendly courts were established through Government partnerships with development partners.
Benefits

• Multi-stakeholder partnerships have generated transformational change in Zimbabwe e.g:

  i. They facilitated input from many different sectors leading to richer and inclusive development processes.

  ii. Burden sharing between Government and stakeholders.

  iii. Widened skills and expertise base.

  iv. Improved resource mobilisation efforts as some partners committed funds – some also come with knowledge of where and how to access funds to augment the Government purse.
Making Partnerships Effective

• partners need the space and opportunity to provide input to discussions and processes.

• Allow partners to be responsible for some deliverables – for buy in and accountability.

• Provide something in return so that it’s a mutually beneficial arrangement for all involved.

• Communication is key – it’s important to always keep partners informed.

• Set clear roles and responsibilities.
CHALLENGES

• Covid-19 pandemic reversed achievement of SDGs.
• Insufficient, timely and disaggregated data for most indicators, making it difficult to track and monitor progress.
• Inadequate resources for the implementation and monitoring of SDGs.
• Low levels of awareness on SDGs.
THANK YOU