Moving Forward with the SDGs in Zimbabwe

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SDG Monitoring, VNR, Reporting & ZIMDAT
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WHAT ARE THE SDGS
These are 17 goals at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all UN member states in 2015.
The 2030 Agenda Broadly focuses on
- People
- Planet
- Prosperity
- Partnership
Institutional Arrangements

- Zimbabwe has committed fully to Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development is a core constitutional imperative and an overall strategic objective for the country. This helps to incorporate data in the VNRs.
- Government has put in place a clear Institutional Framework to guide the Implementation of the SDGs reporting.
- There is a Steering Committee to provide overall guidance and strategic leadership to the process.
- There is a Technical Committee to spearhead the technical processes as well as providing technical back-stopping.
- There are three Thematic Clusters for mainstreaming and localising the SDGs.
- Coordination mechanism is led by the Ministry of Labour with guidance and supervision by OPC, for SDG implementation.
Priority Areas
Priority Areas for the Post-2015 Agenda

• When the SDGs were launched, Government decided that it would implement and track all the 17 goals as they are deemed to be important to the country.

• However, in terms of focus and prioritisation, taking into account the above guidelines, Government has decided that it will focus and prioritise ten SDGs: 8; 7; 2; 9; 6; 13; 17; 3; 4; 5
ZIMSTAT Tracking the Progress?
Monitoring SDGs at the national development plans/ framework and is driven by the following principles:
• Primacy of national ownership at a country led process including all stakeholders
• Building of existing platforms and processes
• SDGs domestication which refers to the localisation into existing National and Agency plans and strategies
• Working hand in hand with the coordinating ministry on national indicators driven by national priorities, while being aligned with global indicators to the extend possible
Challenges

• Large scopes (over 200 indicators)
• Need for data disaggregation and coverage of all population groups
• Need to improve quality timeliness reliability and accessibility
Opportunities

- New data sources
- Partnership with new data communities
- Strengthening of the role of National Statistical offices
- Strengthening basic data production
ZIMSTAT has faced the following issues in effective SDG monitoring:

- Lack of coordination among entities within the NSS
- Inadequate funding to strengthen statistical capacity
- Lack of dialogue between policy makers and the agency
- Statistical literacy of policy makers
- Lack of human capital
- Data availability of high quality disaggregation
- Technology-old systems hindering progress
In resolving the issues, ZIMSTAT has:

- Engaged policy makers and other stakeholders
  - Address problems of visibility
  - Help to improve interest in statistics
  - Helping with the importance of using data for planning
- Effective communication of statistics
  - Need to built statistics literacy
- Coordination mechanisms
  - ZIMSTAT be the Coordinator of Data for SDGs
- Focus on the core
  - Production of statistics relevant for multiple SDGs
  - Integration of various Data Sources
- Relevance
  - Linking Policy with Data
  - Production of data should be demand driven
Social Goals - 5
Economic Goals – 3
Environmental Goals - 8
Peace - 1

Prioritized Goals:
Goal 8:
Goal 7:
Goal 2:
Goal 9:
Goal 6:
Goal 13:
Goal 17:
Goal 3:
Goal 4:
Goal 5:
Plus 1: 16

106 indicators have data with at least a single dimension
SDG data is stored and disseminated through the Zimbabwe Statistics Database (ZIMDAT)
• ZIMDAT is a general purpose database system for the collation and presentation of data, SDG indicators and user-defined indicators.
• ZIMDAT includes maps to the third administrative level, although the system allows for as many as ten levels of geographic coverage.
• The mapping feature allows national administrators to link the database to all relevant administrative levels, to facilitate analysis of the geographic relationships for key indicators.
• Beyond serving as a repository of data, ZIMDAT provides easy-to-use facilities for querying the database and, based on the data retrieved, for producing tables, graphs and maps.

• ZIMDAT is hence a powerful advocacy tool and can contribute to greater SDG awareness and knowledge at the country level among a wide range of stakeholders in the different SDG sectors.

• ZIMDAT contributes to more evidence-based policy-making for setting priorities and achieving localized SDGs.
There are a wide range of existing, well-established UN; non-UN and Government initiatives at country levels, including specific sectorial initiatives for monitoring individual goals.

One of ZIMDAT’s specific purposes is to provide easy access to existing data, help identifying gaps in the SDG indicators, and provide consolidated sources of data on the SDG indicators.

ZIMDAT technology is a powerful database system that can be easily adapted by national entities for advocacy and dissemination of human development information like census data, household survey results and administrative data.

It offers a much-needed common database platform to bring together sectorial data sets in line with the requirements for harmonization and standardization of strategies for monitoring human development.
Thank You