



UNCT in Zimbabwe Update

An update of activities of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Zimbabwe
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United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Scoping Exercise Drawing to a close

The Zimbabwe Scoping Mission, which began its work in April 2009 is drawing to a close with the final work being near completion.

Through this exercise, four institutions — United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Zimbabwe, European Commission (EU), African Development Bank (AfDB) and the World Bank (WB) together with the Government of Zimbabwe are involved in laying the groundwork for a possible future comprehensive needs assessment (NA) for Zimbabwe. This phase has been designated as the scoping phase or the design phase of the assessment exercise to follow.

Based on international experience, such needs assessments would normally feed into an eventual donor conference and a transitional results framework. The latter should be seen as a strategic plan covering a specific period of time and with a prioritized list of needs and actions, with an overarching objective of helping a country to move towards sustainable recovery. The output of the Needs Assessment is the transition plan.

At the end of the scoping exercise, the expectation is that the sectors within the five (5) clusters (i) infrastructure, (ii) social protection, (iii) economic growth, (iv) rights and interests and (v) security — would have been prioritized; the general terms of reference for a Needs Assessment as well as the cluster specific terms of reference would have been developed; the necessary technical expertise for an eventual NA would have been identified and the logistical requirements, financial resources and support staff needs for the NA would have been addressed.

UNESCO study to explore extent and effects of brain drain in Higher and Tertiary Education Sector

Within the context of the Scoping Mission, and ahead of the Needs Assessment, UNESCO, in partnership with the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Association for the Development of Education in Africa Working Group on Education Policy Support (ADEA WGEPS) have commissioned a consultant to conduct a Baseline Study on *“The Status of Human Resources Training Institutions in Zimbabwe”*.

The study seeks to establish the baseline information on the status of human resources training institutions as a sub-sector through the following specific objectives:

- ❖ Examine the broader context (including legal and policy context) within which this sub sector operates;
- ❖ Identify all available data, statistics and other information on higher and tertiary education;
- ❖ Collect data, statistics and information where gaps have been observed;
- ❖ Generate status reports, simulations and scenarios on this sub-sector; and
- ❖ Provide recommendations based on the data analysed and simulation models and scenarios generated.

Among other information, the study is expected to explore the extent and impact of brain drain in the Higher and Tertiary Education sector. It is envisaged that findings from this study will be critical in informing the planned Needs Assessment. The findings are also expected to stimulate policy dialogue among key stakeholders on the recovery and development of the human resource training system in Zimbabwe.



UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM IN ZIMBABWE
“Together, United and Determined we can make a difference”



One Team on HIV in Zimbabwe holds Results Based Approach to Joint HIV planning, management and evaluation Training Workshop

On 25-29 May 2009, the One Team on HIV in Zimbabwe held a Training Workshop on *A Results Based Approach to Joint HIV planning, management and evaluation in Zimbabwe*.

The Workshop aimed to capacitate the Team to more effectively support the national response to HIV. The overall purpose of this workshop was to improve capacity to do results based joint HIV planning, management and evaluation. In 2006 Zimbabwe, under the leadership of the National Aids Council (NAC) developed the Zimbabwe National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan 2006-2010 (ZNASP), which is now due for a Mid Term Review.

The training therefore provided an opportunity for the United Nations, NAC and Zimbabwe AIDS Network (ZAN) to jointly build their capacity in the use of Results Based Management (RBM) to strengthen joint programming. An opportunity was also provided for the organisations to critically look at the links between the current strategies (United Nations Development Assistance Framework UNDAF), Zimbabwe National HIV & AIDS Strategy (ZNASP), Zimbabwe National HIV/AIDS Strategic Operational Plan (ZNASOP), ZAN Strategy and Operational Plan and the UN Integrated Work plan) and operational plans that are guiding implementation.

The workshop was attended by 40 participants representing the key stakeholders involved in the ZNASP development process and was facilitated by the UNAIDS Regional Support Team and the Technical Support Facility (TSF) based in Johannesburg, South Africa. All the UN agencies  are represented in the One Team.

Zimbabwe Receives US\$10m In Emergency Grants

Zimbabwe has received US\$9,982,000 for humanitarian projects through the Central Emergency Respond Fund (CERF)'s Under Funded Window. Among the highest allocations to a country this year, the grant will cover health, protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sectors. Implemented through UNICEF and partners, WASH funds will be channelled towards activities to improve water sources in areas that were worst affected by cholera and communities with a high concentration of displaced populations. Hygiene kits will also be distributed to 6,600 schools throughout the country.

Through activities undertaken by Save the Children UK (SC-UK), UNICEF and UNHCR, funds for protection will be used to assist displaced people



Above: A CERF-funded man-hole clearing project in Bulawayo's oldest suburb, Makokoba, as part of efforts to prevent waterborne disease through WASH activities.

through provision of material, legal and psychosocial support. Initiatives will also target child protection as well as prevention of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV).

WHO, UNFPA and IOM will lead the health sector interventions. Areas of focus were identified by the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MoHCW) in partnership with the UN and Non Governmental Organisations (NGO) partners. The grant will support reproductive health services at institutions country-wide. It will also be used to strengthen the malaria response, improve immunization to stem the spread of preventable diseases, resuscitate the system of village health workers (VHW) and enhance disease outbreak surveillance.

It is envisaged that these activities will contribute towards a holistic approach to emergency health care in the country. The grant-making process involved extensive consultation with stakeholders through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and clusters. It is anticipated that these interventions will improve the quality of life for the affected populations.

The CERF is a humanitarian fund established by the UN to enable more timely and reliable humanitarian assistance to those affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts. It is administered by OCHA.



Coordination key to addressing Gender Based Violence in Zimbabwe

From 12 – 19 May, UNFPA, UNICEF and IOM in a regional joint mission on Gender Based Violence (GBV) emphasized the central role coordination plays in addressing GBV in the country. The mission was to promote a coherent and comprehensive approach to GBV at the field level, including GBV prevention, care, support and recovery.

Three field visits were carried out in Mutare, Mberengwa and Mudzi, as well as interviews with key stakeholders and community focus group discussions. The mission observed the already existing laws and policies to address gender based violence which include the Domestic Violence Act and the National GBV Strategy and Action Plan. It also noted the keen interest of the communities to talk about GBV as well as significant interest and buy in from critical actors across the UN, NGOs and Government.

The key challenges identified included limited resources for comprehensive responding with most communities lacking the basic services; limited understanding of what is required in terms of time, resources; and skills to effectively coordinate GBV interventions.

The mission emphasized the significance of coordination to address GBV and recommended contingency planning for a possible escalation of the humanitarian crisis, establishment of a GBV coordination body and coming up with workable coordination structures or mechanisms at provincial, district and ward level to facilitate information sharing and improving service delivery. The findings of the mission are expected to spearhead establishment of GBV coordination structures as well as GBV programming in Mutare, Mberengwa and Mudzi.



WHO and UNIC Raise Awareness on Cholera

The World Health Organization (WHO) in partnership with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), Zimbabwe United Nations Association (ZUNA) and Ministry of Health and Child Welfare held a Schools Drama Competition on Cholera on 19 May, 2009 aimed at raising awareness to Cholera.

The competition involved 10 schools that are members of the Zimbabwe United Nations Association (ZUNA). Each school presenting a seven minute play on Cholera. The Guest of Honour at this event was a representative of the Minister of Health who highlighted, in his presentation, that spread of cholera was being facilitated by cultural factors and a

Right: Pupils perform a drama on Cholera in an activity organized by UNIC, WHO and ZUNA

failure to adhere to laid out regulations for its control by women and communities. Over 500 pupils, teachers and headmasters were present at this event.



IOM and UNICEF partner to promote safe



Above: A performance during the road show

migration and child protection

On 7 May 2009, IOM and UNICEF launched a joint three-month nationwide community “road show” campaign at Hopley Farm, south of Harare. The interactive campaign which is being driven by community-based theatre performances, music, dance and film is on tour visiting a total of 74 locations nationwide disseminating information on safe migration and child protection to local communities.

With support from the UK DFID, the European Union (EU) and the Government of Zimbabwe, the multi-faceted campaign aims to raise awareness on the risks of irregular migration and encourage safe migration options, while at the same time sensitise people on key protection issues including the ways irregular migration and trafficking affect children, child abuse, HIV & AIDS prevention and gender-



Women in Peacekeeping: The Power to Empower UNIC Commemorates the International Day of UN Peacekeepers

Women in peacekeeping: the Power to Empower was the theme of this year's International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers Commemoration. This theme provided an opportunity to bring to the fore the thousands of women who have contributed towards peacekeeping efforts through United Nations Peacekeeping missions.

In commemoration of this Day in Zimbabwe, the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), Zimbabwe Defence Forces and Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) undertook an educational awareness campaign aimed at raising pupils' awareness to United Nations peacekeeping and the important role that women peacekeepers play in peacekeeping operations.

During the Campaign, members of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, ZRP and UNIC gave lectures on UN peacekeeping to pupils from over 50 secondary schools within Harare. This awareness was held from 20-22 May. The awareness campaign culminated in a march on 29 May, by former UN peacekeepers and non peacekeepers through Harare central.



Above: Former women peacekeepers march through the streets of Harare

Since 2000, when the UN Security Council adopted its landmark Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and On the International Day of UN Peacekeepers, 29 May, 2009, tribute is paid to those who died in the cause of peace on UN peace operations in 2008. Ten of the 132 people who lost their lives that year were women. Today more than 110 000 men and women serve as peacekeepers.



UNICEF in Essential medicine Drive

In the face of acute shortages of basic medicine, UNICEF has embarked on a national drive to procure 70 % of the country's essential medicines. To date, US\$14 million has been mobilized for 2009.

The essential medicines programme is a multi donor initiative, which is supported by The European Commission's Humanitarian Office, Department For International Development (DFID) UK, Central Emergency Respond Fund (CERF), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Australian AID, and reaches both primary (clinics) and secondary (district and provincial) health facilities.

With an elaborate distribution system the national drive reaches 1 414 clinics across Zimbabwe with vital medicines. Apart from procurement, through its innovative supply chain- a bold bid to improve accessibility and availability of drugs – aims to reach even the most remote communities across the country with critical essential and vital drugs for both adults and children and stem out any potential stock outs of these vital supplies.



Gender Based Violence and the Domestic Violence Awareness raising campaign

UNFPA in partnership with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Gender and Community Development, Musasa Project, Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association and PADARE launched a 33 weeks radio program on Radio Zimbabwe aimed at raising awareness on gender based violence, the Domestic Violence Act and topical issues on women's rights including the constitutional reform process and reproductive health rights.

The programme is aired every Tuesday and Thursday in the local ChiShona and Ndebele languages respectively. The radio program is part of a broader mass media campaign in line with the Secretary General's Global Campaign to end violence against women. It will also form a basis for developing tools to facilitate community dialogue on gender based violence.



UNFPA is promoting STI's and HIV Prevention among young people



UNFPA supported the National Young People's Network on HIV and AIDS (NYPNHA) to exhibit their programme of work at this years' Zimbabwe International Trade Fair. The NYPNHA is convened under the auspices of the National AIDS Council (NAC). The exhibition was aimed at raising awareness on some of the challenges youths face, with particular focus on STIs and HIV and AIDS prevention.

Activities included screening of 33 STEPS videos and focus group discussions based on issues raised from the videos. A total of 6 622 people visited the stand and over 350 youths watched the videos and joined in the discussions. Key lesson learnt was the effectiveness of youth to youth communication, as a number of youths revealed infection with STIs, which were referred for treatment. Approximately 159 youths received one on one counseling on sexual and reproductive health issues.



ACBF holds a training of trainers workshop for Management Development Institutes



Above: Group photograph of participants and dignitaries at the opening ceremony of the training of trainers' workshop.

On 18 May 2009 in Harare, Zimbabwe, the Executive Secretary a.i. of ACBF, Edwin N. Forelemu, delivered a keynote address at the official opening ceremony of a two-week training of trainers workshop for Management Development Institutes (MDIs), under the auspices of the Public Sector Management Training Program at Africa University (PSMTP – AU).

The PSMTP was launched by ACBF in 2004 with the main goal of improving the performance of the public sector through the provision of balanced academic and profes-

sional training in public sector management in Africa. The PSMTP has four programs on the Continent - namely, PSMTP-Dakar in Senegal to cover Francophone West Africa, PSMTP-Libreville in Gabon to cover Francophone Central Africa, PSMTP-GIMPA in Ghana to cover Anglophone West Africa and PSMTP-AU in Zimbabwe to cover Eastern and Southern Africa.

Each of the PSMTP programs received a US\$3 million grant for a period of four years. The general objectives of the program are to: (i) establish a sustainable public sector management training program; (ii) build/strengthen the institutional and human capacity of four institutions that host the Master's Degree in Public Sector Management and to manage a network of Institutes of Public Administration/Management; (iii) provide graduate training leading to a Master's Degree in Public Sector Management for middle and high level public sector managers; and (iv) establish a Network of Public Sector Management Training Programs in Africa using existing successful models implemented by ACBF.

The two-week training workshop focused on carrying out a needs assessment activity related to adult training; developing training materials/modules; and equipping participants with skills to train adults (micro-training). The twenty-seven participants were drawn from four partner institutions, namely, Africa University (AU), the National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA, Zambia), the Lesotho Institute of Management and Public Administration (LIPAM), and the Tanzania Public Service College (TPSC).



Universal Postal Union (UPU) in bid to improve Quality of Service in the Delivery of Mail

Through assistance from the Quality of Service Fund (QSF) within the Universal Postal Union (UPU), Zimpost acquired motorbikes to be used in mail delivery within the major cities in Zimbabwe. The UPU Quality of Service Fund was created to finance projects geared to improve the quality of service within the postal network in developing countries.

Zimpost purchased a total of twenty-seven (27) motorbikes. The use of motorbikes is meant to assist postmen with timely delivery. Use of motorbikes will ensure quicker mail delivery especially in routes that are difficult to cycle because of bad terrain. This development is meant not only to improve mail delivery standards, but also to modernize the postal system. With a network of more than 300 postal outlets country wide, postal services play an important role in facilitating communication within and outside the country. The postal network is well positioned to provide access to information and knowledge particularly in rural and remote centers.



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UNESCO holds a Media Roundtable to address key media issues



From left: UNESCO Regional Adviser for Communication and Information for Southern Africa Gervasio Kaliwo, Ambassador Chris Mutsvangwa, Deputy Prime Minister Prof. Arthur Mutambara, Ibbo Mandaza at the UNESCO Roundtable on the "Role of Media in Dialogue, Mutual Understanding and Reconciliation" held

On 2 May 2009, in Harare, UNESCO invited journalists and politicians and some members of the civic society to explore the role of the media in promoting dialogue, mutual understanding and reconciliation within the framework of free and independent press.

Conducted as part of the World Press Freedom Day 2009 commemorations, the UNESCO Roundtable was organised under the umbrella of broader Zimbabwe Union of Journalists (ZUJ) nationwide celebrations, which also included marches/parades, speeches, exhibitions and entertainment in all the ten provinces of Zimbabwe. World Press Freedom is commemorated every year on May 3, a day that was set aside by the United Nations to raise awareness on the importance of Press Freedom and Freedom of Expression and to highlight the plight of journalists in various parts of the world where press freedom is denied.

The UNESCO Roundtable tackled the topic: "The Media as a Platform for Dialogue, Mu-

tual Understanding and Reconciliation – Challenges and Opportunities". Roundtable discussants carefully selected from all parties across the political divides, the media and the academic and civil society included the Deputy Prime Minister Prof. Arthur Mutambara, Businessman and former Zimbabwean Ambassador to China, Chris Mutsvangwa, among other key people. As the UN agency mandated to promote the ideals of Press Freedom and Freedom of Expression, UNESCO continues to work in Zimbabwe and other cluster countries to promote this ideal as enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of the Human Rights.



UNAIDS support to gender activities in HIV and AIDS programming

UNAIDS is supporting the implementation of gender mainstreaming processes in HIV and AIDS programming in Zimbabwe. It has supported the development of the Zimbabwe AIDS Network (ZAN) and National AIDS Council (NAC) gender policies. The policies guide and direct processes of mainstreaming gender and women empowerment into the national response to HIV and AIDS in Zimbabwe where 60% of adults (15-49 years) living with HIV and AIDS are women. UNAIDS has supported both NAC and ZAN in gender mainstreaming training for its officers and implementing partners. As a result both the NAC and ZAN and their partners have drawn up integrated gender responsive HIV and AIDS district plans.

UNAIDS has also supported the training of key players in humanitarian situations and emergencies to mainstream Gender, HIV and AIDS. The key players include Zimbabwe Defense Force (ZDF), Zimbabwe

Republic Police (ZRP), the Civil Protection Department, ZAN, NAC and their partners.



Meeting on Gender and the Constitutional Review Process

On 28 May in Harare, the Gender Forum held a meeting to discuss the Constitutional Review Process. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the Women's Summit to be held on 19 June 2009. The summit will discuss ways through which women will engage around the Constitutional Process.

It was agreed that the Summit would be participatory, informative and educative in order to benefit Zimbabwean women from all walks of life. Representatives from the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development, UN agencies and Non Governmental Organizations participated in the meeting.



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Conversations for a Better World is UNFPA's communication contribution to the 15th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) that took place in Cairo in 1994. This conference produced a ground breaking Programme of Action that emphasized individual rights and well being in the context of population and development. It later provided a foundation for the Millennium Development Goals.

The specific conversation topics that will be covered

- HIV and POVERTY: What really drives the epidemic? Population growth and poverty: Are fewer children a route to prosperity?
- Maternal mortality and human rights: Do all pregnant women have the right to live?
- Young people and the future: Why we need to talk about sex?
- Economic meltdown and women: Who bears the pain?
- Ageing societies and social transformation: Grey clouds or silver lining?
- Women and humanitarian relief: Does ignoring women imperil the effort?
- Migration and prosperity: Is unprecedented urbanization a blight or a blessing?
- Population dynamics and climate change: Who are the spoilers? Who are the victims?
- Women and food security: Who feeds the family, and how?
- Culture and gender inequality: Exploring the intersection between tradition and human rights
- Women and poverty: Are women and girls the bridge to prosperity?
- Sexual violence and progress: What are the real costs?

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