ZUNDAF 2016 - 2020

2016 UN Zimbabwe Results Report
Supporting Inclusive Growth & Sustainable Development
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Foreword

Over a year ago, the Government and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Zimbabwe jointly committed to implement the 2016-2020 Zimbabwe United Nations Development Assistance Framework (ZUNDAF) as a contribution towards the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of ending poverty, transforming the lives of all citizens and protecting our environment. Under the principle of national ownership and national leadership, the ZUNDAF has been aligned to the national aspirations and commitments detailed in the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Zim Asset). Furthermore, it is informed by the 10 Point Plan as enunciated by His Excellency the President in 2015.

It is gratifying to note that the implementation of the 2016-2020 ZUNDAF is underway and that there is significant progress already being registered. It is further pleasing to note that the UNCT officially adopted the “Delivering as One” approach in March 2016 to further enhance efficient and effective coordination as well as avoid duplications and gaps in programming.

For the first time in world history, a shared vision for the planet is now in place through the SDGs. Zimbabwe is strongly committed to the global agenda and has prioritized 10 goals that will pave the way for its fulfillment. The process of domesticating the SDGs is currently underway. In addition, focus is on establishing which indicators and baselines should be used to measure progress. The urgent completion of this exercise is imperative and should be expedited to enable us to take stock of implementation progress of SDGs timely.

Zimbabwe faced several challenges in 2016 including the El Nino-induced drought which affected 40% of the total population. Despite these challenges, the UN and its partners came together in support of the Government to deliver over USD 403 million towards achieving the ZUNDAF results and responding to the immediate humanitarian needs of people affected by the drought. When analyzing the ZUNDAF outcome indicators, progress was made in nearly three-quarters of the indicators.

Going forward, the implementation of the 151 human rights recommendations accepted by Zimbabwe during the country’s second Universal Periodic Review is a key priority. We would propose that each ZUNDAF Results Group incorporate the relevant recommendations within their annual work plans. Furthermore, as we come out of the worst drought in 35 years, we are reminded of the need to address root causes of vulnerabilities. In 2017, we must therefore refocus our collective efforts on resilience-building.

Lastly, we thank the ZUNDAF Results Groups ably guided by the Government chairpersons and UN co-chairpersons for ably steering the review process that produced this annual report. The Government of Zimbabwe would like to express its appreciation to the UNCT, Development Partners as well as the civil society for their generous support, and fruitful collaboration under the ZUNDAF in pursuit of improving the lives of the citizens of Zimbabwe.

Dr. M.J.M. Sibanda
Chief Secretary to the President and Cabinet

Bishow Parajuli
United Nations Resident Coordinator
2016 was a momentous year for the UN System in Zimbabwe. On 1 January, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development came into effect, coinciding with the first year of implementing the new 2016 - 2020 Zimbabwe UN Development Assistance Framework (ZUNDAF). In March, UN Zimbabwe officially became a Delivering as One country, joining 50+ UNCTs around the world who have committed to deliver better results together. The formal adoption of the Delivering as One approach serves as a critical enabler for the UN agencies to work jointly in five areas - policy and programme, budgetary frameworks, operations, communications and advocacy, and, leadership. This first UN Zimbabwe Country Results Report highlights development results achieved under the ZUNDAF, humanitarian results achieved together with partners under the Humanitarian Response Plan, as well as on those achieved in operations and communications and advocacy.

A number of challenges emerged in 2016, affecting the work of the UN in Zimbabwe. The economic situation has deteriorated significantly with a worsening liquidity crisis, resulting in rising unemployment and poverty. The 2016 projected economic growth rate was revised downwards to 0.6% from the initial forecast of 2.7%. The trade deficit of USD 1.99 billion in 2016 increased the pressure on liquidity, which was also affected by Diaspora remittances declining by 17% in 2016, to USD 780 million. The limited fiscal space, with over 90% of the national budget going to human resources/employment costs, has prevented much-needed expenditures on public investments and social services. Finally, a severe El Niño-induced drought left 5.2 million vulnerable people – 40 % of the total population – food insecure. This necessitated a shift in UN attention from longer term development assistance to shorter term humanitarian assistance, as will be described in this report.

However, in this environment the UN, together with its partners, has delivered development programmes worth USD 322 million and mobilized an additional USD 214 million for the UN and NGOs to undertake humanitarian drought response.
One Programme

The 2016-2020 ZUNDAF guides the work of all the UN agencies with programmatic presence in the country, including Non-Resident Agencies. The ZUNDAF is coordinated and implemented through the six results areas:

Food and Nutrition Security

Zimbabwe is an agro-based economy, with the livelihoods of 70% of the population directly or indirectly generated from agriculture. In 2016, the productivity fell drastically for a number of key crops due to the El Niño-induced drought (maize reduced from 0.7 mt/ha to 0.62 mt/ha). Progress for most of the planned outcomes (7 out of 10) for this results area were constrained as focus moved from longer term development of the ZUNDAF towards meeting the immediate humanitarian needs of the food insecure population under the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). Through the HRP, 1 million people were reached with food assistance under the Lean Season Assistance. A total of 138,390 beneficiaries were assisted through rehabilitation and development of assets for longer term resilience building, such as irrigation schemes, dip tanks, and boreholes.

Gender Equality

Zimbabwe’s constitution has strong provisions for gender equality. However, despite these commitments, women and girls continue to face challenges in achieving equality in the political, social and economic spheres. Violence against women continues to be a major challenge with 35% of women having experienced violence in their lifetime and about 22% of women aged 15-49 years having their first sexual intercourse forced against their will. The UN’s work aims to strengthen the formulation and implementation of laws, policies and national programmes that empower women. When Zimbabwe’s constitutional court declared in 2016 the long enduring practice of child marriages to be unconstitutional, it was a major achievement for the UN and several other stakeholders, who had long advocated on this issue. The UN also engaged 936 traditional leaders to address negative cultural practices and norms that perpetuate violence against women and girls. In this results area, progress towards the planned outcomes is on track for most indicators (6 out of 7).

HIV&AIDS

Zimbabwe’s HIV epidemic peaked in 1998 with a prevalence of around 28% of the population. Due to massive efforts over the last two decades, the HIV prevalence has dropped to 14% in 2016. The UN’s work is guided by the 90-90-90-strategy to be achieved by 2020: 90% of all people living with HIV should know their HIV status; 90% of those should receive sustained antiretroviral therapy; and, 90% of those should have durable viral load suppression. In 2016, the status is: 74-87-87.

For the first 90, Zimbabwe is currently at 74.2%, which points to a need for accelerated efforts. The UN is therefore prioritizing targeted HIV testing services to improve on realizing this goal. In 2016, the UN helped to craft a sub-national HIV regime, which sets targets, identifies resources and monitors progress towards the 90-90-90 goal. In this results area, progress towards the planned outcomes is also on track for most of the indicators (9 out of 12).

Public Administration and Governance

The 2013 Constitution is highly progressive, and the UN is working with the Government to strengthen good governance, including through the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution. For example, the UN is providing assistance to the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) for investigation and complaints handling. In 2016, the Commission received a total of 477 cases and was able to deal with 173 of the cases.

In support of promoting human rights worldwide, the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) allows all 193 UN member states to have their human rights performance reviewed every 4 years. In 2016, Zimbabwe
participated in its 2nd review (the first was in 2011). A total of 260 recommendations were received, 151 were accepted, 6 supported in part and 103 were noted. The UN used its convening power to organize – together with the Government - a pre-meeting and a follow-up meeting where development partners and civil society representatives participated and contributed to the UPR process. This paved a way for creating a multi-stakeholder platform for implementation and monitoring of the UPR recommendations. In this results area, progress was also noted against most of the outcome indicators (7 out of 8).

Poverty Reduction and Value addition

Poverty is a persistent challenge in Zimbabwe, with over 70% of the population living under the total consumption poverty line and over 20% being extremely poor. High levels of unemployment and underemployment are among the root causes, which have not improved in 2016. The UN supports the Government in its efforts to improve the structural conditions of the labour market, to formalize the economy and create decent, green jobs. This has happened through participation in the formulation of the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy (I-PRSP) as well through several reviews/drafting/launches of policy instruments and strategies, including the review of the National Labour Migration Policy and the launch of the Diaspora Policy. The strategies and programmes produced are generally of a high quality but their implementation has remained weak. Despite these challenges, progress was noted against most outcome indicators (7 out of 8).

Social services and protection

Zimbabwe has approximately 3 million households, of which 1.9 million are either moderately poor (1.4 million) or extremely poor (0.5 million). These households have limited access to and utilization of basic social services, such as health, education, water and sanitation. This leads to a number of other problems, including school dropouts, child labour, and teenage pregnancies. The UN addresses these by targeting the demand side for social services (addressing norms, traditions and family priorities), the supply side (strengthening capacities of schools, clinics, and sanitation facilities) and by availing social protection for the most vulnerable population (for example, through cash transfers). Amongst the results from 2016 are: the number of children with disabilities enrolled in primary and secondary education increased by 24% (from 40,226 to 49,692); and, 2,215 Open Defecation Free Communities were established, which in turn led to the construction of 58,065 household latrines. Through School Improvement Grants worth USD 9.5 million, the UN, through partners, reached a total of 3,159 of the most disadvantaged schools in an effort to ensure access to education in selected communities. Within this results area, progress was noted towards most of the outcome indicators (19 out of 21). The provision of social protection to the most vulnerable was affected by attention and resources being shifted towards delivering drought-related social protection under the Humanitarian Response Plan.

In summary, across all six results areas, progress was achieved against most (49 out of 66) of the outcome indicators. One-fifth of the outcome indicators (14 out of 66) were either constrained or no progress was realized due to a number of reasons, as highlighted in the sections above. The results were achieved with a total funding allocation of USD 322 million, compared to an average annual ZUNDAF budget of USD 328m per year (based on the total ZUNDAF budget of USD 1.642 billion for 5 years). As the Financial Overview shows, some results areas (particularly Poverty Reduction and Value Addition) remain strongly underfunded whereas others (particularly HIV&AIDS) have received more money than budgeted, mainly due to a large 2016 grant from the Global Fund.

Humanitarian Response

The humanitarian partners jointly made good progress against three strategic objectives, which they agreed would guide the humanitarian drought response. The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), covering the period April 2016 to March 2017, focuses on life-saving activities and basic service deliveries, while promoting early recovery strategies to avoid dependencies and ensure that humanitarian assistance can be scaled down at the time of the next harvest. Reviewing the first eight months of HRP implementation, three key achievements can be highlighted:
Against the 3.1 million people targeted in the HRP, the humanitarian partners reached nearly 2 million most vulnerable people (65% of the overall HRP target) with a multi-sectoral response.

Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Meetings, jointly chaired by the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) and the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) created the necessary high-level platform for coordination and strategic decision-making.

Through HRP implementation, a number of innovations were born to address the unique operational challenges faced by Zimbabwe. These include: innovation through evidence-based joint contingency planning and harmonized approach through the Cash-based Transfer Sub-Working Group; use of crisis-modifier; and, DFID Zimbabwe Grain Market Facility.

Operating as One

Within the area of Operating as One, the UN focused on responding to the evolving countrywide cash crisis and its ramifications, in addition to the planned activities of establishing common long term agreements for procurement of internet services, security services, travel services, fuel supply, cleaning services, courier & customs clearance, printing services, design services, promotional/visibility items, and vehicle maintenance. Implementation in the first year of the 2016-2020 Strategic Operations Framework (SOF) resulted in the UN achieving a cost saving of USD 0.4 million. This was higher than the budgeted annual target of USD 0.2 million. It demonstrated the cost efficiency of the UN working together in business operations.

Communicating as One

Within the area of Communicating as One, the UNCT, based on the 2016-2020 Communication and Advocacy Strategy, pursued joint advocacy on a number of issues around gender equality, ending child marriage, addressing high maternal mortality, alcohol and drug abuse, inequality and future of work in Zimbabwe. These efforts have positively influenced policies, resulting in measures such as the adoption of the law to end child marriage, economic reforms and increased poverty reduction initiatives. For the first time, the UN carried out strategic advocacy jointly with a number of development partners, particularly on issues of gender based violence and child marriages. The UNCT strengthened relations and visibility with close to 300 articles and stories printed and covered in the electronic media during 2016 (compared to 135 in 2015), coupled with a strong presence on social media. The UN also conducted a youth-targeted outreach programme on the SDGs, reaching over 54,000 young Zimbabweans through university lectures, radio broadcasts and showcasing of the UN’s work through 13 joint UN events.
Key Trends in Development Assistance

Since a 2012 peak in Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Zimbabwe, levels of assistance have waned and plateaued in the past four years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ODA to Zimbabwe</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USD million</td>
<td>1001.59</td>
<td>827.54</td>
<td>760.59</td>
<td>788.09</td>
<td>Data not yet available</td>
</tr>
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Despite waning ODA levels, the UN in Zimbabwe has upheld a high programme expenditure around USD 400 million per year - the third largest UN development portfolio globally, after Afghanistan and Nigeria.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USD million</td>
<td>426.33</td>
<td>369.95</td>
<td>446.57</td>
<td>416.51</td>
<td>403.23*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: UN agency reporting to the Government of Zimbabwe, Ministry of Finance.*

* 2016 is a sum of USD 322.60 m disbursed towards the ZUNDAF and USD 80.63 m towards the HRP

In the period 2012-2015, the ODA inflow has been very much concentrated, with the eight largest donors contributing around 84% of the total ODA inflow.


To maintain high delivery of development assistance requires the UN in Zimbabwe to widen the donor base and continue to reduce costs and increase efficiency.
Results of One Programme

The 2016-2020 ZUNDAF is the UN’s strategic programme framework jointly developed with the Government to support national development priorities, as informed by the 2013-2018 Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Zim Asset) and the Ten Point Plan and to advance on the achievement of the SDGs, as well as other international commitments, norms and standards. The ZUNDAF allows all members of the UNCT to deliver together under one nationally-owned strategy that draws on the full range of UN expertise while supporting an integrated approach to achieving development results in a coherent manner. The ZUNDAF elaboration process was jointly led by the Government of Zimbabwe and the UNCT with the participation of development partners, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, and international financial institutions, ensuring national ownership and inclusiveness throughout the process.

The Government of Zimbabwe and the UNCT are committed to the principles of Delivering as One to enhance UN coherence for sustainable development results. Therefore, in 2016, Zimbabwe officially became a Delivery as One country, an approach adopted by 56 countries globally as at November 2016. In line with these principles, and to best support Zim Asset, a strategic outcome-based approach for the ZUNDAF was adopted, focusing on recovery and development priorities. The ZUNDAF is organized in six Results Areas, which all have corresponding Results Groups, co-chaired by UN and GoZ, who coordinate the actual implementation of the ZUNDAF. This report is therefore structured around these six Results Areas.
Zimbabwe is an agro-based economy. Agriculture has been key to the nation’s economic stability, performance and growth. The agricultural sector is the basis for direct and indirect livelihoods for almost 70 percent of the population. The sector, both formally and informally, employs approximately 66 percent of total employment. Thus, the growth and development of agriculture is expected to support the improvement and growth of the industry and service sectors of the economy. Zimbabwe’s current economic condition, characterized by lack of fiscal space, liquidity shortages, recurrent droughts (e.g. 2015/2016), corruption and inadequate domestic and foreign direct investment has adversely affected the functioning of the agriculture and natural resources sectors, particularly affecting the poor and vulnerable population.

In the Food and Nutrition Security Results Area, the UN is supporting Government to: (a) establish a conducive policy environment to attract both domestic and international investment into the agricultural and natural resources sectors; (b) commercialize the smallholder farmers; and (c) build resilience to mitigate the negative effects of droughts and floods. In order to improve the nutritional status of the poor and vulnerable populations in both rural and urban areas, especially among children under 5 years and lactating mothers, agricultural diversification (i.e. in both crops and livestock) and bio-fortification in seeds and processed foods are being promoted. Under this results area, the UN is also helping to address key development challenges that require multi-sector responses through supporting the development and implementation of laws, policies and national programmes that promote gender equality, and participation of youth and women’s empowerment.

SDG-focus
This results area focuses on:

SDG#2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

Achieving Food Security through Rural Finance and addressing Post-Harvest Loss

The UN with financial support from UK Aid, under the National Financial Inclusion Strategy facilitated the development of appropriate rural finance products to enable smallholder farmers to access financial services for agriculture and non-farm activities. The support from the programme enabled financial institutions to build capacity for the following: a) training of staff to understand and appreciate the needs and capacity of smallholder farmers; b) developing and rolling out appropriate lending products; c) supporting the roll out of an outreach strategy that included setting up low cost branches, agencies and mobile financial services; and d) developing and rolling out financial literacy training for smallholder farmers. As a result of this intervention, the financial institution in 2016 managed to lend over USD 11 million to smallholder farmers and SMEs in the eight target districts.
Outcome 1.1: Targeted households in rural and urban areas have improved food and nutrition security.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>On-Track</th>
<th>Constrained</th>
<th>No Progress</th>
<th>Discontinued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>86% (6/7)</td>
<td>14% (1/7)</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total planned expenditure for 2016-2020 ZUNDAF Cycle (USD)</th>
<th>Disbursed in 2016 (USD)</th>
<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200,000,000</td>
<td>28,587,306</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
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</table>

Progress made in 2016

The latest ZimVAC rural and urban livelihood assessments estimate that up to 5.2 million people could be food insecure during the peak of the lean season (January-March 2017). This is the highest food insecurity prevalence estimated since 2009. The progressive increase in the proportion of food and nutrition insecure households was attributed to the 2016 El Niño weather phenomenon that resulted in drastic reduction in grain production (maize reduced from 0.7 mt/ha to 0.62 mt/ha) while small grains (sorghum and millets) remained the same. The 2016/17 consumption year food insecurity prevalence is 40% higher than that for the 2015/16 consumption year during the peak hunger period.

Under the Food and Nutrition Security results area, the UN has supported the Government to review policies (i.e. Mechanization and Irrigation, Forestry, Climate Change, Renewable Energy, Flood Plain Development Framework, Land Tenure and Interim report on consensus based compensation) and strategies (Foot and Mouth Disease and Drought Mitigation) to create a conducive environment for private sector investment. Capacity development was provided to smallholder farmers and extension agents in 19 vulnerable districts in the areas of farming as a business, irrigation schemes, governance and water management, animal husbandry, pen fattening and live animal grading, and crop production. In addition, value chains were developed for various agricultural products, namely honey, marula, jatropha, groundnuts, sesame, mung beans, paprika, sugar beans, goats, indigenous chickens, poultry and beef among others.

Challenges and Constraints

The El Niño-induced drought in 2015/2016, which was the strongest and longest event in 35 years, resulted in widespread crop failure, livestock deaths, shortage of domestic and livestock water, and dwindling livelihood and income-earning options, especially for the poor and vulnerable communities. The extreme dry weather conditions also dried up the water sources, negatively affecting irrigation schemes and dipping of livestock in rural areas, and strict water rationing was introduced in most urban centers.

Outcome 1.2: Communities are equipped to cope with climate change and build resilience for household food and nutrition security.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed</th>
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<th>Constrained</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>67% (2/3)</td>
<td>33% (1/3)</td>
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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total planned expenditure for 2016-2020 ZUNDAF Cycle (USD)</th>
<th>Disbursed in 2016 (USD)</th>
<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100,000,000</td>
<td>6,265,178</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
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</table>
Progress made in 2016
Helping people build resilience to climate change is a pre-requisite for achieving SDG#2 (Zero Hunger). UN agencies and other actors have responded to the high levels of food and nutrition insecurity over the past 15 years through a number of humanitarian responses. The major aim of such interventions has been to address immediate needs, save lives and protect livelihoods. While these interventions are essential, many did not contribute significantly to addressing the underlying causes of vulnerability and food insecurity and, thus, were not effective in helping communities prepare for, respond to and recover from recurring shocks and stresses in a way that also builds resilience between cycles of disasters and over time.

The UNCT has highly prioritized the need to build resilience and strengthen capacities of communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made shocks and stresses in line with the ZimAsset vision of moving “towards an empowered society and growing economy.” To address this, the UN with funding from European Union and UK Aid launched the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF) to support resilience building activities in most vulnerable districts. The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Framework is fully operational and being implemented in 9 vulnerable districts. Three Consortiums with a total of 12 member organizations were selected to implement projects in 9 prioritized districts and contracts were signed and grants allocated. ZRBF has committed USD 11.9 million in contracts under Output 2 during second quarter of 2016. The disbursements under these contracts will be distributed over a lifespan of 36 months, based on the individual consortia’s work plans. In addition to this, and in line with the Paris Agreement priorities that the Government of Zimbabwe signed in 2016, a project on Supporting Enhanced Climate Action for Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Development Pathway was launched. This seeks to strengthen community resilience and adaptation to climate change through an integrated climate change adaptation and disaster risk management approach, which is gender sensitive and inclusive and sets the basis for climate change mitigation efforts at national, sub-national and grassroots levels. Resilience building activities include wetlands management, gulley reclamation, reforestation and holistic land management. The development and rehabilitation of 20 irrigation schemes, 109 dip tanks and 217 boreholes and rehabilitation of various small weirs to impound water resulted in investments and actions that improved the production and productivity of smallholder farmers. In addition, UN activities that complemented Government efforts, also covered capacity development in postharvest technologies to reduce post-harvest losses, and strengthened market linkages for sustainable agricultural production by smallholder farmers to prepare and respond to recurrent shocks, and thus contribute to long-term resilience, income and food security and prosperity.

Challenges and Constraints
Drought induced by the El Niño phenomenon compounded by lingering land ownership issues brought about by the land reform programme have been the two most significant challenges to achieving the goals. With funds and focus flowing towards humanitarian issues, focus also shifted from development to humanitarian interventions that are resilient in nature.
Gender Equality

Zimbabwe’s Constitution of May 2013 has strong provisions for the promotion and attainment of gender equality and women’s empowerment. The government has also created an enabling environment for the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment by enacting a number of gender responsive laws. It has identified the importance and centrality of gender equality to the development of the country and its economy in Zim Asset; prioritized SDG 5 on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment; and highlighted the importance of ensuring gender mainstreaming in all the SDG goals.

Despite these commitments at various levels, women and girls in Zimbabwe continue to face challenges in the political, social and economic spheres. The 2014 Zimbabwe Country Analysis noted that women are likely to suffer from negative and harmful cultural practices, subordination in the public and private spheres, patriarchal attitudes and power imbalances, including in the workplace. Violence against women and girls in Zimbabwe continues to pose a major challenge to the advancement of women and girls with 35% of women having experienced either physical and or sexual violence within their lifetime (ZDHS 2015). In addressing GBV, a five-year national programme on prevention and response has been developed. Three one-stop centres and seven community-based shelters are providing support services. Some of the key challenges to ending violence against women include the slow implementation of the laws and policies, the absence of a well-resourced legal aid providers and justice delivery structures and entrenched patriarchal values.

Women’s leadership and participation in decision making in the public and private sectors has generally remained low, although women’s representation in Parliament in the 2013 elections increased from around 17% to a critical mass of 35%, due to the special measure in the Constitution. A strategy to increase women’s political participation has been developed.

Economically, women dominate low skilled and low paid occupations with the least labour protection. 41.2% of adult women are economically inactive and 53.6 % of workers in the informal sector are women. The UN’s theory of change in achieving gender equality is to use a multiple track strategy for gender mainstreaming. This entails that gender is mainstreamed in each of the ZUNDAF results areas, and through interventions used to advance the stand alone ZUNDAF results area of gender equality. The UN works at the level of policy development and implementation of laws to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment, while at the same time programmes are targeted specifically at poor and vulnerable women and girls who have been disadvantaged by sex discrimination, and socio economic and cultural factors. Programming in 2016 also considered the effects of the unprecedented El Niño-induced drought on women, including instances where women travelled long distances to look for casual labour or fetch water, thus resulting in increased vulnerability to violence. The UN responded by mainstreaming gender in a more coordinated manner to address gender issues in its humanitarian response.
SDG-focus
This results area focuses on:

SDG#5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Shifting Mindsets on Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Under the H4+ Project, male and female community based advocates were trained to mobilize communities in 3 districts on maternal health, which includes early antenatal booking, male involvement in promoting maternal health, HIV counselling and testing, prevention of violence against women and delivering in health facilities. The H4+ is a partnership of UN agencies concerned with maternal and child health. As a result of the training, communities organized themselves into men and women’s fora where deeper dialogue on the above issues take place. Aaron, a member of the men’s forum on GBV and maternal health prevention in Chiredzi, is an example of what happened to most male participants in the programme areas who did not involve their wives in any family decision making processes. Due to participation in the men’s forum activities, Aaron now plans for the family’s development with his wife. He is also now aware of the importance of early antenatal bookings and tests for various diseases that affect babies in the uterus. He mobilizes the community to keep the girl children in school, instead of marrying them off early. All his children of school going age are in school. He moves around mobilizing other men for GBV prevention. The project has helped Aaron and many other men to become equal and responsible partners to their spouses. Aaron has become a well-respected community leader.

Outcome 2.1: Key institutions strengthened to formulate, review, implement and monitor laws and policies to ensure gender equality and women’s rights.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>On-Track</th>
<th>Constrained</th>
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<td>100% (3/3)</td>
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<td>0%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20,000,000</td>
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</table>

Progress made in 2016
The UN programmatic intervention is aimed at strengthening capacity for the formulation and implementation of laws, policies and national programmes that empower women and girls to effectively participate in social, economic and political spheres. One of the most important results in 2016 was the development of the National Action Plan on Ending Child Marriages. This came after efforts by the UN and other partners working with the Government, parliamentarians, traditional and religious leaders.

Additional results include: (a) strengthening the capacity of 165 female and male parliamentarians in the areas of policy analysis, understanding the gender equality and women’s empowerment provisions in the constitution and the process of drafting laws; (b) sensitizing 60 members of the parliamentary portfolio committees on health, gender, social welfare and justice on key sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) issues affecting women, including child marriage, teenage pregnancy, fistula repair, maternal mortality, cervical cancer and the SADC Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage; and
(c) supporting the Inter-Ministerial Committee on alignment of laws to the Constitution to conduct stakeholder consultations to ensure that gender and SRHR issues are mainstreamed into the proposed Rights of People with Disabilities Bill. The result of this initiative has been a memorandum of principles submitted to cabinet.

In order for the Gender Commission to effectively fulfill its mandate, it was supported to develop a strategic plan, an investigation and complaints handling manual, and to engage members of parliament, government ministries, men’s forum, civil society organizations, workers and employer’s organizations on the roles and responsibilities of the Commission. As part of the SADC Electoral Commission Forum training, eight Zimbabwe Election Commissioners were trained on gender equality and elections.

Technical support was provided to Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development to develop the first National Gender Equality and Women Empowerment M&E framework, which will be used to track accountability to gender equality and women’s empowerment commitments. The UN also supported social mobilization of 742 females and 194 male traditional and religious leaders and men and boys through community dialogue to address negative cultural norms that perpetuate violence against women and girls and early child marriages.

Challenges and Constraints
Programming still needs to be strengthened through the use of available gender statistics and a gender analysis to make gender mainstreaming more visible in the work of UN agencies. Further, the gender issues that have been identified are not fully resourced. Even though laws and policies have been enacted for an enabling legal environment against gender based violence, the need remains for strengthened support for the enforcement of laws and policies.

Outcome 2.2: Women and girls are empowered to effectively participate in social, economic and political spheres

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

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Progress made in 2016
The UN has worked on empowerment, both upstream (e.g. women in public office) and downstream (e.g. women and girls at community level). In order to ensure women’s sustained participation in public office at national and local levels, 120 female parliamentarians (out of 124 female members holding seats) were trained on how to maintain their seats and to mentor other women to participate in politics. The female parliamentarians also received training on electoral processes and electoral reforms in preparation for the 2018 elections.

Downstream, the UN achieved results on preventing gender based violence (GBV) and promoting economic empowerment. Through community dialogues, 101,229 women and girls received information on ending child marriages and on the prevention of GBV; 300 district GBV multi-sectoral team members were trained on GBV prevention and response; 7,200 women accessed six GBV shelters; and 9,000 survivors received GBV services at One Stop Centers. In the pursuit of economic empowerment, the UN influenced the mainstreaming of gender into the national financial inclusion strategy, which presently includes a section on women’s financial inclusion. In accordance with the strategy, eight banks have established women’s desks.
In addition to working on policy, the UN worked on strengthening women’s capacity to access loans, manage businesses and to improve crop production and storage. 21,183 women were trained on internal savings and lending schemes; 450 women in agriculture accessed loans from microfinance institutions; and 287 were trained in production and storage of small grains to improve food security. 230 women were trained in occupational health and safety, women workers’ rights and business management; 32 women were trained on basic mining fundamentals and on how to manage their businesses; and 81 women’s groups participated at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) and 71 at the agricultural show, obtaining standing orders from local and regional markets amounting to over USD 50,000. The business plan for the Women’s Micro Finance Bank was established. The Women’s Mining Service Centre equipped with a gold processing plan and equipment for hiring by women miners was commissioned in Gwanda.

**Challenges and Constraints**

Socio-cultural practices and attitudes continue to perpetuate the high prevalence of violence against women and girls, which negatively affects their abilities to exercise many of their socio-economic rights. The majorities of women are economically inactive and are concentrated in vulnerable employment in the informal sector. Women, who are in the formal economy, remain largely excluded from financial services and products that cater for both their business and household needs, even though they are 57% of the business owners (Finscope Survey 2012).
HIV and AIDS

Since 1998, the 28% peak year, HIV prevalence in Zimbabwe has been declining and currently stands at 14% (Women: 16.6% and Men: 11.2%) among 15-49 year olds, as measured by the Household DHS and ZIMPHIA 2015/16 conducted in 2015 and 2016. These surveys show that the country has made great progress in access and utilization of HIV/AIDS services resulting in positive changes in the desired impacts and outcomes. HIV incidence is currently at 0.48% for 15-49-year-old (Women: 0.67% and Men: 0.28%) which is lower than earlier estimated. The epidemic is still feminized with high infection rates in women and regional variations with high prevalence in Matabeleland. Among men and women, prevalence peaks at 30% in 45-49 year olds for men and 40-44 year olds among women.

The viral load suppression is an important measure of quality in antiretroviral treatment together with patient’s adherence behavior. The country has an estimated viral load suppression of 60.4% among people living with HIV (Women: 64.5% and Men: 54.3%). In terms of the 90-90-90 strategy, the country is now at 74-87-87. Through the ZUNDAF, the UN prioritized: (a) enabling government and civil society to provide increased access to an effective and comprehensive package of prevention services, based on approaches that address the underlying drivers of the epidemic in the general population and among key populations; b) programmes ensuring that people living with HIV know their status, receive sustained antiretroviral therapy and have durable viral load suppression; and c) ensure that the National AIDS Council, Ministry of Health and Child Care with partners have capacity to effectively and efficiently manage a multi-sectoral response. The AIDS Levy established in 2000 remains the only sustainable home grown innovative domestic financing mechanism. Over 70% of the total cost of the national response is still externally funded, making the possibility of a sustainable response in Zimbabwe a desire that is still distant.

SDG-focus
This results area focuses on:

- SDG#3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
- SDG#5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- SDG#10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- SDG#16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- SDG#17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development
Planning for prevention and treatment towards ending AIDS on sub national levels bears fruits

With support from the UN, provinces and districts across the country, succeeded in developing sub national HIV/AIDS indicators for prevention and treatment. The subnational units were subsequently able to obtain their estimates and utilize them to contribute to the national targets of elimination by 2020 (the 90-90-90 target). Going forward, the districts are therefore able to set targets, identify resource needs and focus areas, as well as monitor progress towards achievement of plans. By September 2016, 1.9 m Zimbabweans were tested and given results with 0.9 m being put on anti-retroviral treatment representing a 95% achievement rate by September 2016. It is to be noted that 148,638 were newly diagnosed to be having HIV and of these, 144,586 were referred to care, with 127,439 being enrolled in care and 92,834 being put on antiretroviral therapy, which represents an 11% increase by September 2016 from 879,271 at the end of 2015. This initiative requires resources and advocacy for sustained implementation of estimating and planning, at provincial, district and facility levels, as well as undertaking monitoring and supervision. The UN, together with partners, provided financial and technical support to Zimbabwe HIV and AIDS Activist Union to decentralize the community treatment monitoring model to 8 districts in Mashonaland Central province. In this model, people living with HIV on anti-retroviral treatment form small groups of 8-12 people that support each other and take turns in collecting medication and other relevant supplies from health facilities, hence reducing time and money spent. Each member of the group has their medical review by clinicians and annual tests (viral load) when it is their turn to collect medicines for the group.

Outcome 3.1: All adults and children have increased HIV knowledge, use effective HIV prevention services, and are empowered to participate in inclusive and equitable social mobilization to address drivers of the epidemic.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Progress made in 2016
The UN sought to ensure access to effective and comprehensive packages of prevention services among various target populations that also address underlying drivers of the epidemic. National achievement on the outcomes from DHS 2015 indicates that 55% of women and 56% of men aged 15-49 had “comprehensive knowledge” about the modes of HIV transmission and prevention, compared to 46% of young women and 47% of young men aged 15-24. This indicates a lower level of knowledge among young people compared to the national average. On protective behavior outcomes among sexually active individuals, 1% percent of women and 14% of men had sexual intercourse with two or more partners in the past 12 months and the use of condoms among these respondents was 67% for women and 85% for men during their most recent sexual intercourse with their partner. The UN continued to improve on building knowledge and the adoption of safe sexual behaviors in the population.

The UN increased the coverage of demand generating interventions for sexual and reproductive health, rights and comprehensive life skills (including HIV) for cohorts aged 10-24 by providing 534,907 person exposures to social and behavior change communication and community programmes; putting integration of family planning into antiretroviral therapy guidelines that also identify key populations, such as sex workers and youths; training teachers in life-skills based sexuality education and supporting them with relevant resources to teach in schools, out of school and in tertiary institutions. The UN
continued to improve the availability of prevention services through the provision of Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision in all districts as outreach or stand alone and availed 46.2 m condoms (43.3 m to males and 2.9 m to females) by September 2016. The UN further promoted the integration of sexual, reproductive health services, HIV and gender based violence in pilot facilities - noticeable recorded uptake of services includes 150,000 voluntary medical circumcisions; 1.98 million individuals received HIV testing services; and 37,440 HIV-exposed children were covered with antiretroviral prophylaxis out of the 38,239 that were identified.

In keeping with the principle of leaving no-one behind, the UN supported women’s organizations to participate in the national HIV response planning and resource allocation.

**Challenges and Constraints**

The general economic challenges threaten the gains achieved in the health sector. The freeze on employment of civil servants and delays in salaries can lead to increased workloads and can demotivate health workers. The lack of funds may further compromise adherence to treatment and lead to drug resistance. New data and modelled estimates have revealed populations where most new infections occur. These include never married females plus previously married and never married uncircumcised men. It is important that the UN undertake deeper analyses and reflections on these pointers to uncover drivers and respond appropriately to ensure that knowledge and service provision is targeted to these populations.

**Outcome 3.2:** 90% of all people living with HIV know their HIV status, 90% receive sustained antiretroviral therapy and 90% have durable viral load suppression.

**Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)**

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**Progress made in 2016**

The UN supported government and other partners to achieve increased coverage of HIV testing among people living with HIV. It mobilized resources and built capacity for sustained antiretroviral therapy and advocated and supported the development and implementation of the viral load monitoring strategy. In 2016, Zimbabwe concluded two major surveys - the Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS 2015/2016) and the Zimbabwe Population based HIV Impact Assessment (ZIMPHIA 2015/2016). These surveys show compelling evidence that joint UN and Government efforts together with other partners have contributed to 74.2% of people living with HIV knowing their HIV status, 86.8% of those who know their status receiving lifelong antiretroviral therapy and 86.5% of those on antiretroviral treatment being virally suppressed against the 2020-targets of 90-90-90.

The contribution by the UN included the expansion of services, namely HIV and TB in public facilities and prisons, resulting in 54 additional health facilities availing services in 2016 (leading to total of 1,556 facilities). The expanded health facility system and the development of the HIV testing services strategy resulted in more infected people knowing their status. The increased use of mass media campaigns (radio & TV), social mobilization, interpersonal communication activities, community based outreach services, linkages between other prevention programmes and, targeting high yield settings, such as artisanal miners in the country led to more than 2 million tests being undertaken in 2016. Through UN advocacy, technical and financial support, the country also adopted the new WHO guideline, “Treat All,” which has since been implemented nationwide to expand improved quality service provision. The UN, in response to the El Niño-induced drought, supported the use of the HIV/AIDS estimate districts profile data to determine people living with HIV needing humanitarian support, mainly food support, in the
drought-stricken districts. Using this evidence, the UN mobilized USD 400,000 to ensure that individuals in the most drought-affected districts continued to receive uninterrupted HIV/AIDS services.

**Challenges and Constraints**

In order to achieve the 90-90-90, achievement of the 1st 90 is paramount. The 2016 level of 74.2% is a considerable improvement from 64% in 2011. However, much room for improvement remains. It is therefore important that the UN will prioritize planning and implementation of targeted HIV testing services to key populations; utilize index case testing; focus on adolescents, children, and people in prison settings; and undertake community-based HIV testing and counselling campaigns focusing on families in communities, people in tertiary education, hot spots, and in the work places to ensure that those with high prevalence are reached. Weak laboratory service for people living with HIV and inadequate ART and opportunistic infections commodities in facilities are still major constraints. Sustained and increased funds remain crucial for effective procurement of kits and other lab commodities to ensure the availability of uninterrupted laboratory services and drugs in all health facilities, as the WHO Antiretroviral Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents.

**Outcome 3.3: Key institutions from Government and civil society effectively and efficiently manage a multi-sectoral AIDS response**

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Progress made in 2016
The national response is driven by the availability of finances and evidence of informed planning together with a strong and coordinated partnership, among other factors. Key achievements in 2016 include the UN system’s efforts to mobilize USD 202 m through the Global Fund to ensure continuity of services for the country to continue providing services until the replenishment period for Global Fund renewed allocation. The UN supported the mobilization of USD 469 m in the last three years and provided technical advice for the utilization of a USD 90 m savings, which resulted in an effective response. The savings accrued from efficiency gains involving global lowering of antiretroviral drug prices and further negotiation of prices by the UN procurement system. The UN sought to expand and improve services through the revision of the anti-retroviral therapy strategy; the development and rollout of the Viral Load Testing strategy; and the utilization of investment cases to guide the implementation of the National AIDS Strategy.

The UN continues to build synergies with government efforts and other partners for a high impact with the available resources. The government continues to sustain the availability and motivation of human resources for health, infrastructure, drugs and other supplies, as well as coordinates the national response. The U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has been instrumental in the provision of ART commodities and supplies to their target locations, and in the provision of technical assistance to improve quality of services. H4 has been instrumental in providing financial support through the UN and other partners to address the needs of key populations and the youths. In terms of people on treatment, the Government of Zimbabwe through the AIDS levy is currently supporting the treatment of 8% of the adult population living with HIV on treatment, while PEPFAR is supporting 18% and the rest, 74 % is supported through the Global Fund implemented through the UN System.

Challenges and Constraints
It is important that the UN prioritize cost efficiency, cost effectiveness and sustainability and establish the optimal cost of delivering the national response and consider financing options that secure that the available resources are well utilized.
Poverty Reduction and Value Addition

Zimbabwe continues to face formidable challenges in terms of resolving issues of poverty and decent work deficits. Despite the gains made in reducing extreme poverty from 35.7% in 1995 to 16.2% in 2012, a large portion of the population still remains in poverty. This is exhibited through high levels of vulnerable employment in an increasingly informal economy; informality has increased from 80% in 2004 to 84.2% by 2011, rising sharply to 94.5% by 2014. Poverty affects the majority of youths and women in rural areas and in the informal economy where they work with little or no incomes. The macro-economic environment remains very weak, weighed down by limited fiscal space, low domestic production, liquidity and cash shortages and broad country risk factors emanating from lack of and or weak policy coherence limiting both foreign and domestic investment.

In the short-term, efforts need to be directed more towards engaging in national dialogue to address the socio-economic challenges facing the country. Key entry points include improving sectoral productivity and re-developing value chains, especially in agriculture and micro and small enterprises in the informal economy that account for a larger portion of economic activity. In the medium to long-term, a critical aspect of the shift is to promote a process of sustained structural transformation, moving labour from low productivity rural and informal sectors to high productivity sectors, especially value addition and rebuilding linkages in key value chains in agriculture, manufacturing and services. The promotion of linkages in the mining sector is critical, as this will help unlock the potential of the capital-intensive sectors to create employment.

Opportunities for job creation and income generation also exist in the provision of alternative sources of energy and green technologies, namely in solar energy, waste management and infrastructure rehabilitation and development, need to be supported by an enabling macro-economic policy environment that seeks to promote investment, re-engagement with IFIs, increased policy clarity and the role of private sector to provide a job-rich economic growth and development.

**SDG-focus**

This results area focuses on:

- SDG#1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- SDG#4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- SDG#5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- SDG#7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
- SDG#8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- SDG#9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- SDG#13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Training for Rural Economic Empowerment (TREE)

A local economic development strategy introduced by UN (ILO) that identifies emerging and potential employment, income generation and small business opportunities and delivers training in practical skills and business management. It has now been integrated into the Zim Asset acceleration plan for 2017. In 2015 and 2016, resources to the tune of USD 500,000 and USD 2.5 million respectively were allocated in the national budget as seed funding with support expected from development partners to complement the funding towards enhanced rural economic development. Within this framework, the ILO and the African Development Bank (AfDB) initiated discussions for a USD 3million Youth and Women Empowerment Programme (YWEP). The programme will bring together Ministries of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development, Youth Development and the UN to support value addition and value chain development in agriculture (horticulture—vegetables and fruits), artisanal mining (gold) and mopane worms. Discussions are being finalized and implementation agreements will be signed in the first quarter of 2017 and programme implementation is expected to start immediately.

Outcome 4.1: Key institutions formulate and implement socio-economic policies, strategies and programmes for improved livelihoods and reduced poverty of communities

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details):

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Progress made in 2016:

Zim Asset implementation is on-going, albeit with limited resources. A mid-term review was conducted in October 2016 in Nyanga. An Acceleration Plan inspired by Malaysia’s Blue Ocean Strategy has been developed to deliver rapid high impact results in 3 priority areas in 2017: Fitness and Wellness Programme; Private-Public Partnerships (PPPs) in Housing and Infrastructure Development; and Youth and Women Economic Empowerment using the ILO TREE methodology.

Several initiatives targeting poverty are being implemented under the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund. There is weak coordination and limited funding opportunities for the Poverty Reduction and Value Addition Results Group. The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund has only disbursed funds to CSOs to date. In sum, with resources being significantly lower than budgeted, there is need to re-focus programmes and projects to adjust the targets for more focused interventions, either by target group or geographical area.

A USD 2.7 billion Interim-Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper supported by the EU and the World Bank was developed and launched in September 2016. An Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialization Programme was developed and jointly signed by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and UN with a budget of Euro 20.7 million expected to be mobilized. Several measures were taken to review, develop and launch additional policy instruments and strategies, such as the National Labour Migration Policy, the Diaspora Policy, an Employment Potential Diagnostic Study, a Formalization Strategy, Cooperatives Policy and Act, the National Social Protection Policy and the MDG Final Progress report that await signature and dissemination. The strategies and programmes developed are of a high quality but their
Implementation remains weak due to limited resources. Technical advice has been extended to the Zimbabwe National Productivity Institute (ZNPI) Board to strategize on its form and function in support of improving productivity and competitiveness in the economy.

Challenges and constraints:
The country remains constrained by the exclusion from international, regional and even domestic funding lines to re-develop industry and to create jobs whilst also growing the economy. The macro-economic environment remains weak weighed down by limited fiscal space, perceptions on corruption, punitive transactional costs in business processes and operations. Implementation of policies and programmes due to limited or a lack of resource allocations remain as challenges for the achievement of this outcome. Several results are reported as stand-alone initiatives spearheaded by individual Ministries and agencies.
Outcome 4.2: Increased access to income and decent work opportunities in key value chains and economic sectors, particularly for young people and women

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details):

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Progress made in 2016:

The ZRBF was launched in May 2016 and is supported by the European Union and DFID. The ZRBF seeks to invest in resilience building activities and disbursed over USD 1,520,972 to three implementing partners for work in Binga, Bubi, Chiredzi, Kariba, Mbire, Mwenezi, Nkayi, Umguza and Umzingwane. Implementing partners are supporting the building of absorptive capacities around Disaster Risk Management (DRM) structures at local levels; adaptive capacities for long-term livelihoods initiatives on food production, livestock and water and sanitation and transformative capacities of Rural District Councils for improved service delivery and market linkages.

A youth employment programme was launched in Harare South, Zvimba East, Makonde and Chimanimani targeting 240 youths and women in value addition in horticulture, poultry, bee-keeping and transport, health, water and community infrastructure development and rehabilitation. The initiative in Harare South is a pilot joint programme intervention with the UN and the City of Harare to promote access to sexual and reproductive health services and to improve community infrastructure using employment intensive investments that engage youth and adolescents. Discussions have been initiated with the AfDB and the UN in collaboration with the Ministries of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development and Youth Development for a USD 3million Youth and Women Empowerment Programme, as highlighted in the text box. An Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Livelihoods programme was launched to address poverty in twenty of the poorest districts, targeting both upstream and downstream activities through the provision of rural livelihoods and business development support to innovative youth; strengthening subnational and community-based organizations and structures; and supporting policy and national structures. Seven Community Information Centers were completed and seventy others are being constructed. Over USD 1.71 million was transferred through the postal network in 2016 and by the end of October, 12,138 people accessed financial services. Two Common Facility Centers for carpentry were upgraded to provide skills for value addition and access to equipment for productive purposes. 1,069 beneficiaries were trained in Business Management skills. Eighteen groups and nine Savings and Credit Cooperatives Societies (SACCOS) were formed in Gokwe, Binga and Lupane to increase access to credit.

Challenges and Constraints

The weak macro-economic environment remains the main challenge for job creation and poverty reduction with the majority of the population trapped in vulnerability with low wages and incomes in the informal and subsistence economic activities. The disbursements of funds to SACCOs in some areas has been hampered by the cash shortages and non-availability of compliant financial services providers. There is need to take advantage of the demographic dividend by addressing the skills deficit to address job creation and poverty reduction/alleviation through broader and coordinated efforts. The ZRBF is a good practice on the funding side, but similar efforts are needed on the implementation side to reduce fragmentation of efforts across districts and target groups.
Public Administration and Governance

During 2016, development support under the Public Administration and Governance results area focused on promoting and enhancing democratic governance, accountability and strengthening institutions for governance and democracy. Programmatic initiatives were implemented on data for development, peace, good governance, protection of human rights, and access to justice, as foundations for development and economic growth in the country. Zimbabwe’s development and progress on these issues is anchored and embedded in the democratic principles and human rights protection mechanisms enshrined in the 2013 Constitution of Zimbabwe, the aspiration contained in Zim Asset and the Interim-Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper.

During 2016, programmatic initiatives that were implemented towards deepening democracy, accountability and strengthening of public administration system included aligning a series of laws to the Constitution; holding of the Universal Period Review process; capacity development of independent Chapter 12 Constitutional bodies; and amplifying citizen’s capacity for democratic participation and engagement. The support was aimed at creating an enabling environment for sustained peace, security and economic development, including building communities that are resilient in the face of natural and environmental shocks, such as droughts. Particular emphasis was placed on enhancing justice, rule of law, protection and promotion of human rights, in line with the Constitution, international norms and standards. Addressing these goals will contribute to the realization of SDG 16, which promotes peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provides access to justice for all and builds effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Much progress has been achieved in 2016 toward supporting the provision and utilization of data, as indicated through several reports that have been produced and disseminated, including the Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS), planning for the 2016/17 Poverty, Income and Consumption Expenditure Survey (PICES) and supporting the routine health and education information systems. These have further strengthened the capacity of Government and other end users to track progress and provided evidence in the development of programmes.

SDG-focus
This results area focuses on:

- SDG#8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- SDG#16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Advancing Human Rights for All

All 193 Member States of the United Nations have their human rights record reviewed by their peer members, once every four years under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. The UPR is a significant innovation of the Human Rights Council, which is based on equal treatment for all countries. It provides an opportunity for all States to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights. The UPR also includes the sharing of best human rights practices around the globe. Currently, no other mechanism of this kind exists. Zimbabwe was reviewed at the 26th session of the UPR process on 2 November 2016. The partnership between the Government, Civil Society Organizations and the UN resulted in the country successfully submitting its second UPR report in Geneva. The submission was complemented by shadow reports from civil society. The UN Zimbabwe’s UPR report was well received and endorsed by the Council. The UN member states made 260 recommendations and Zimbabwe accepted 151, supported 6 in part and noted 103. As an example of the convening power of the UN, a UPR report back meeting was held on 13 December 2016 thus allowing the Government to provide feedback to and discuss with partners and stakeholders on the outcome of the second cycle UPR.

Outcome 5.1: Key public sector institutions mobilize, manage and account for resources effectively for quality basic service delivery.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

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<th>Disbursed in 2016 (USD)</th>
<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<td>3,800,000</td>
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Progress made in 2016

In collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the EU, the UN focused efforts on developing an aid coordination architecture for mobilizing, managing and accounting for development aid in Zimbabwe. As a result, in 2016 a comprehensive needs assessment supported by EU on aid coordination was conducted. The outcome of the needs assessment will inform the development of the aid coordination support framework and unit in 2017. In assisting Zimbabwe in dealing with the global changes in Information and Communication Technology, the UN supported the country to review the existing policies and legal frameworks on Information and Communications Technology. The revised legal and policy frameworks were submitted to Cabinet.

Challenges and Constraints

The absence of evidence on the aid coordination structure necessitated the carrying out of a needs assessment, which was completed by year-end in 2016. The outcome of the needs assessment will be considered in early 2017. The delays in carrying out the needs assessment resulted in delays in setting up the envisaged aid coordination unit, hence limited capturing official development assistance data.
Outcome 5.2: Increased citizen participation in democratic processes in line with the provisions of the Constitution and relevant international norms and standards.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

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Progress made in 2016

In 2016, the UN in collaboration with the Government, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and civil society concentrated efforts on the implementation of the 2013 Constitution and with emphasis on protection, promotion and upholding of human rights. Support was provided to Zimbabwe to develop and submit its Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Report to Human Rights Council in Geneva in November 2016 (See video on webtv.un.org). In compliance with some of the Human Rights Council observations from Zimbabwe’s first UPR review (October 2011), the UN supported the Zimbabwe Prisons Correctional Services (ZPCS) initiative to decongest the prisons in 2017. In addition, 30 senior police officers were capacitated on International Labour Standards (ILS) to improve relations between workers, employers and State actors through learning sessions. Eight Gender Commissioners and 40 members of the Law Society of Zimbabwe were sensitized on ILS with the aim of improving service delivery on women workers’ rights.

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) was supported to handle and respond effectively to cases of human rights abuses and maladministration. A total of 173 out of 477 received were dealt with by the Commission in 2016. As part of the alignment of laws to the Constitution, the General Laws Amendment Bill covering 125 laws across Government was passed by Parliament and assented to by the President. 2016 witnessed an expansion of spaces for citizens’ representation and participation in policy making, within the context of ongoing legislation alignment. This was achieved through 79 public hearings convened by 10 Portfolio Committees. A total of 21,808 citizens participated in public hearings and Parliamentary Committees’ consultations. Efforts to deepen community social cohesion and peaceful co-existence, resulted in 36 local peace communities across the country capacitated to resolve community disputes. At least 180 cases were resolved over the period. As part of citizen involvement in democratic processes, all 92 local authorities were supported to engage citizens in budget preparations processes, resulting in the budgets of most local authorities taking into account the contributions from the citizens.

Parliament oversight was further enhanced, as evidenced by the improved quality of statement of accounts of public resources provided in a timely manner by the Office of the Auditor General. In 2016, all the 37 ministries’ audited statements were timely produced and presented to Parliament. Further, recommendations by Parliament during the Pre-Budget Seminar were considered by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development in the final budget presentation. Capacities for tripartite consultations, consensus building and negotiation on the principles of Labour Law reforms were enhanced through training of 40 Government employers and worker’s representatives. Furthermore, UN supported the preparatory work towards developing a comprehensive and inclusive electoral voter registration system.

Challenges and Constraints

Inadequate capacity in Government to draft Bills is slowing the pace of alignment of laws to the Constitution. Parliamentary public hearings on Bills conducted by Parliament were mainly concentrated in urban areas, at the exclusion of rural population. Public awareness and literacy on the fundamental human rights in the Constitution of Zimbabwe remains a challenge to many citizens.
Outcome 5.3: Government and its partners generate and utilize data for development.

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

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<th>Disbursed in 2016 (USD)</th>
<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>11,431,189</td>
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Progress made in 2016

Three surveys were supported in 2016, namely the analysis of the 2015 Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS); planning for the 2016/17 Poverty, Income and Consumption Expenditure Survey (PICES), including carrying out a user inquiry and recruitment and training of enumerators; and data collection of the annual Agriculture and Livestock Survey (ALS). The preliminary and final results of the 2015 ZDHS were disseminated to users and the reports made available to the general public through the ZIMSTAT website. Reports for the 2014/2015 ALS were also produced while those for the 2013/2014 season were currently being prepared. Two routine information systems (national health information system (NHIS) and education management information system (EMIS) were supported, with the 2014 reports being produced by year end while reports for 2015 were work in progress. The Central Business Register was still current and will be updated in 2017. Ten thematic reports, five drawn from the in-depth analysis of the 2012 population census and another five from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) were produced and disseminated to users, comprising academia, researchers, private sector, Government, donors and the wider development community. The data is useful in the planning and monitoring processes of development interventions and national priorities. The reports covered thematic areas, such as living conditions; labour force characteristics; women and men; children; older persons; nutrition, health and wash; education; religion; inequality and inequity; and child protection, child marriage and attitudes towards violence. In addition, six fact sheets drawn from the 2015 ZDHS and covering maternal health; family planning; HIV and sexual reproductive health; HIV prevalence; adolescent sexual and reproductive health; and gender-based violence were also produced and disseminated. Most statistical series targeted for support under the ZUNDAF were up to date. ZIMSTAT is currently reviewing cultural statistics frameworks from other countries with a view to developing a Zimbabwe specific framework.

Challenges and Constraints

Funding and micro-data access discussions took longer than expected and seriously delayed the start of the 2016/17 PICES. With the expiry of the DFID-funded project, ALS is also facing funding challenge. As a mitigation measure, an agricultural productivity module has been introduced in the PICES.
Zimbabwe has approximately 3 million households. Of these 1.1 million are not poor, 1.4 million are moderately poor and 500,000 are extremely poor. These poor households - including the chronically ill, people with disabilities, orphaned children, refugees and older persons - face multiple overlapping deprivations, including limited access to and utilisation of basic social services, such as health, education and others. Access to and utilisation of services has been limited by a number of factors including; poverty, inadequate financing of the social sector, insufficient implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes, lack of adequate infrastructure, negative social norms, low participation of communities in design, management and delivery of services; growth of un– or underserviced irregular settlements in peri-urban and rural areas. These factors have led to a number of problems, including high school drop outs, child labour, teenage pregnancies, early marriage, a growing fertility rate, high unmet demand for family planning services, high rates of HIV and AIDS and sanitation and hygiene illnesses.

Addressing these challenges requires cross sector coordination and therefore the UN through the Social Services and Protection (SSP) results area has targeted support to the Government that address these challenges through the Education; Health; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Social Protection sub-groups. Within these subgroups, the UN strategies have taken a three pronged approach. Firstly, by addressing the demand side through tackling factors that influence access and utilisation of social services. Secondly by addressing the supply side through strengthening the capacity of key institutions to deliver high impact, cost effective interventions for education, reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health, water and sanitation and hygiene practices. Lastly by supporting provision of social protection for the most vulnerable population groups e.g. through the Harmonised Social Cash Transfers (HSCT) and supporting the development and implementation of the National Social Protection Policy Framework, which was launched in December 2016.

**SDG-focus**

This results area focuses on:

- **SDG#3**: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- **SDG#4**: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- **SDG#5**: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- **SDG#6**: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- **SDG#10**: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- **SDG#11**: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
National Health Strategy Development

With technical and logistic support from the UN, the World Bank and Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), the Ministry of Health and Child Care has produced a costed the 2016-2020 National Health Strategy, with financial support from the Health Development Fund (HDF), EU and the World Bank. A bottom-up, evidence-based (using a situational analysis and applying a scientific bottleneck analysis) process was highly consultative with a wide range of stakeholders, including members of the communities. Costing was done using the One Health Tool (OHT), which combines a number of older versions of costing tools previously used by the different UN Agencies and the World Bank. The One Health Tool is easily adaptable to incorporate the different cost centers across the various services and service delivery points, and can be used to provide different costing scenarios related to the available resource basket. National capacity was built in the bottleneck analysis, as well as the OHT. The costed NHS has 3 funding scenarios that will be selected according to the availability of resources, and will be used as a resource mobilization tool.

Outcome 6.1: Vulnerable populations have increased access to and utilization of quality basic social services

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

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<th>Total planned expenditure for 2016-2020 ZUNDAF Cycle (USD)</th>
<th>Disbursed in 2016 (USD)</th>
<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>396,000,000</td>
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Progress made in 2016

Overall, between 2015 and 2016, gross enrolment rates (GER) and net enrolment rates (NER) for Early Childhood Development (ECD) and secondary education witnessed an increase. Net enrolment rates at ECD A rose from 15 to 17.6% while that for ECD B increased from 33.2 to 37.2%. While gross enrolment rates (GER) for lower secondary rose only marginally by only 1.5% points from 75.2 to 76.7%, GER among the 10 lowest performing districts rose by almost 6% points, showing that the children from the most disadvantaged communities have expanded access to secondary education, and that equity in access has improved.

The number of children with disabilities enrolled in primary and secondary education increased by 24% from 40,226 to 49,692. All indicators of access reflect gender parity. The UN, with the support of partners, distributed school improvement grants (SIG) worth just over USD 9.5 million to support 3,159 of the most disadvantaged schools, benefitting over 750,000 learners by improving the learning environments for children by narrowing the equity gap in access to education. Working in close collaboration with national stakeholders, the UN contributed to a 7% reduction in unmet needs for family planning among females aged 15 -19 years, a 6% increase in the number of pregnant women going for at least 4 ante-natal care services and an increase from 69% to 76% in 2016, of eligible children aged between 12-23 months who were fully immunized. These results were achieved through providing support to the development of a youth friendly health services package and building the capacity of the health workforce on the package, procurement of pregnancy test kits to ensure early diagnosis of pregnancy at Primary Health Care facility level, health promotion messages through village health workers and strengthening outreachs and community engagement and mobilization for the
Expanded Program on Immunization services. Furthermore, the UN through the Health Development Fund focused on improving access to cervical cancer screening services, skilled birth care and Post-Natal Care (PNC) for women and new-borns. The UN supported the retention scheme for midwives, upskilling of primary care nurses and encouraging health facilities to reinforce the policy of retaining mothers, for at least 48 hours to enable them to receive PNC within 48 hours.

The UN working in collaboration with other stakeholders supported the government on Rural and Urban WASH. Rural WASH program recorded an overall progress of 103%. A total of 329 boreholes were drilled and equipped with Bush Pumps and the remaining 5 of the planned 32 piped water schemes were rehabilitated in 2016. A total of 58,065 household latrines were constructed without a subsidy, and 2,215 villages were declared Open-Defecation Free. Rolling out of the automated Village Based Consultative Inventory and the Rural WASH Information Management System in 14 districts has been completed and implementation of Phase 2 which covers the remaining 22 districts is in progress. The Urban WASH focused on three main areas of the Small Towns Water Project: (a) rehabilitation works on water and sewerage infrastructure; (b) hygiene promotion and customer care; and (c) institutional strengthening. The UN provided support in rehabilitation works that have been completed and technically commissioned in five out of the seven Phase 1 towns. Furthermore, to improve on service delivery and citizen engagement and reporting, UN supported the SMS-based reporting system. Improvements have been recorded in the timeliness of reporting faults and disruption of services; the reaction time by the Council Authorities; transparency; accountability; and service delivery. Consequently, there has been a noticeable reduction in diarrheal diseases in the urban areas, which are covered by the programme due fewer open defecation sites, and improved knowledge and practice of hygiene.

Challenges and constraints:
The needed changes in the legal and policy framework in the education sector is a lengthy process. Work on aligning the Education Act with the 2013 Constitution, which is underway, requires that public consultations be held throughout the country. The Inter-Ministerial Team (IMT), led by Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, has been coordinating these consultations which started in November 2016 and were only concluded in February 2017. Once the IMT has consolidated the feedback from the consultations, it will start re-drafting the Education Bill and the Memorandum of Principles for submission to Cabinet. In the absence of a finalized Education Act, relevant statutory instruments and
policies that guide the development of the sector cannot be finalized. There is also need to finalize and adopt the existing draft of the School Health Policy and to expedite the review of the expired (2012 to 2015) Life Skills, Sexuality, HIV and AIDS Strategy to reflect priorities for 2017 to 2020.

**Outcome 6.2: Key institutions provide quality and equitable basic social services**

**Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)**

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**Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)**

<table>
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<th>Total planned expenditure for 2016-2020 ZUNDAF Cycle (USD)</th>
<th>Disbursed in 2016 (USD)</th>
<th>% of total budget disbursed</th>
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<tr>
<td>289,000,000</td>
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</table>

**Progress made in 2016**

Primary and secondary school completion rates increased. On another positive note, the equity gap in access narrowed, for instance, lower secondary gross-enrollment rates (GER) among the 10 lowest performing districts rising by almost 6 %points against the national average of 1.5 %points. Grade 7 pass rates improved marginally from 41.61% in 2015 to 42.90% in 2016. While gender parity in access was maintained at 1.00, when it comes to pass rates, girls continued to outperform boys (Females: 45.29% and Males: 40.43%). At Early Childhood Development (ECD) level, 54.0% teachers were trained, a significant rise from the 2015 figure of 32.7%. The UN has supported the country to consolidate this process by ensuring that the education sector is able to provide quality and equitable services.

Working in collaboration with other stakeholders, the UN focused on supporting district hospitals and primary health centers to provide Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and New-born Care and Basic Emergency Obstetric and New-born Care services respectively. Through the Health Development Fund, support was provided to the deployment and retention of critical staff at district hospitals and health clinics. Support was also given through the Clinical Mentorship Programme for the procurement and distribution of 8,000 units of blood coupons to enable pregnant women to access blood when needed, upskilling of primary care nurses and on the job training on Emergency Obstetric and New-born Care.

In pursuit for enhanced national budgetary allocations to the social sector, UN supported the development of the 2016 National Budget Briefs that analysed spending patterns in general, and social sectors spending, in particular. The UN engaged the media, the Ministry of Finance, the Members of Parliament, Civil Society and the private sector on the Budget analyses, and in collaboration with the World Bank, IMF, and African Development Bank pursued Government commitment to social sector prioritization in allocations and disbursements. By the 3rd quarter of the 2016 fiscal year, social sector disbursements from National Treasury had improved relative to previous years and relative to some of the other sectors

**Challenges and constraints**

Limited funding and sub-optimal quality of care resulting from inadequate human resource capacity (numbers, knowledge and skills) together with poor incentives for a range of civil servants (non-accountability for results, work overload, low remuneration) has increasingly proven to be a challenge.

Weak referral services (poor ambulance services, user fees at referral centers) is increasingly proving to be a challenge in securing increased access to and utilization of quality basic social services.
Outcome 6.3: Households living below the food poverty line have improved access to and utilization of social protection services

Overview of outcome indicator progress (see annex for details)

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Overview of funding disbursed (see annex for details)

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<td>63,000,000</td>
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Progress made in 2016

The El Niño-induced drought in 2015/2016 was the strongest and longest event in 35 years and exposed the country’s most vulnerable populations to a serious of threats. This resulted in a shift of resources and attention from social protection as outlined in the set programmes to a focus on a humanitarian response. Under the Humanitarian Response Plan, the UN agencies and partners supported the Ministry of Health and Child Care to provide access to life-saving essential health, nutrition and WASH services through strengthening community-based management of acute malnutrition programmes and reaching children with critical water, sanitation and hygiene services. The UN supported the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare to strengthen child protection services by protecting the most vulnerable children, particularly girls, from violence, abuse and exploitation. Communication for Development interventions was mainstreamed in all sectors, specifically focusing on the provision of technical assistance to Government and NGO counterparts, formative research and the development of Information, Education and Communication materials.

Under the initially planned ZUNDAF efforts, some progress was noted with the Government’s approval of the National Social Protection Framework (NSPF) in November 2016 and the ensuing official launch in December 2016. Further, 2016 also witnessed the launch of the National Action Plan for Orphans and Vulnerable Children 2016-2020, as well as the child protection fund II. Both programmes provide a framework for the care and protection of vulnerable children in Zimbabwe. The drought induced state of emergency resulted in a shift of resources and focus from social protection to a humanitarian response. The drought also affected the impact of the ongoing social protection programmes as emphasis shifts toward consumption, as opposed to resilience building.

Challenges and Constraints:

Data availability has proven a challenge, where sources of data are national surveys e.g. PICES which are undertaken every 5 years thus creating gaps in ZUNDAF reporting. Primary sources of information, such as records from ministries have also not been readily available to update progress in indicators. Reporting on disability is a challenge hence data sources need to be identified to be able to adequately report on any interventions targeting people living with disabilities.
Results of Humanitarian Response

The UN together with humanitarian partners jointly made good progress against the three Strategic Objectives, which they had agreed would guide the humanitarian drought response as indicated in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) covering the period April 2016 to March 2017 and continues to be implemented. The HRP focuses on life-saving activities and basic service deliveries, while promoting early recovery strategies to avoid dependencies and ensures that humanitarian assistance can be scaled down at the time of the next harvest. Reviewing the first eight months of HRP implementation, three key achievements should be highlighted:

Against the 3.1 million people targeted in the HRP, the humanitarian partners have reached nearly 2 million most vulnerable people (65% of the overall HRP target) with a multi-sectoral response. This complemented the Government’s nation-wide drought relief efforts. The response was made possible through joint advocacy between the Government, UN, NGOs and the development partners on the humanitarian needs of the drought-affected vulnerable population in Zimbabwe at regional and HQ-levels, which resulted in relatively high HRP funding level, at 61% of the overall requirement by 30 November 2016. The Zimbabwe HCT has actively participated in the RIASCO Action Plan process, as well as continued with advocacy at HQ despite competing global humanitarian priorities.

Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Meetings, jointly chaired by the Office of the President and Cabinet and the UN Resident Coordinator created the necessary high-level platform for coordination and strategic decision-making that has been critical for the HRP implementation. The platform brought together the Government, UN, NGOs, development partners, private sector and the media involved in the drought response. Through meetings, both at the central and provincial levels, coordination and information sharing at all levels were strengthened. The meetings also provided an opportunity for all humanitarian actors to reinforce their collective commitment to the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

Through the HRP implementation, a number of innovations were born to address the unique operational challenges faced by Zimbabwe. These included evidence-based joint contingency planning and harmonized approach through the Cash-based Transfer Sub-Working Group; use of crisis-modifier; and, DFID Zimbabwe Grain Market Facility. These innovative approaches can be shared with the wider global humanitarian community as good practices.

Challenges and Constraints
The humanitarian partners are scaling up their drought response efforts ahead of the peak of the lean season in January to March 2017, when 4.1 million people in the rural areas and an additional 1.1 million people in the urban and peri-urban areas are projected to become food insecure, an increase from 3.4 million rural people in October to December 2016. There are three main challenges for the humanitarian partners to fully achieve the strategic objectives and targets they have set in the HRP:

Complementarities between the Government and UN/NGOs’ response efforts. Continued, regular and systematic information-sharing between the Government and the UN sector leads, particularly on food assistance (cash-based and in-kind), would be critical to ensure complementarities of efforts and avoidance of overlaps and gaps. This is particularly important from the point of view of accountability.
both to the targeted beneficiaries and the development partners, who have contributed generously to
the drought response.

Multi-Sectoral Response. While the HRP is 61% funded, additional resource mobilization efforts to
bridge the remaining funding gaps, particularly for the critical under-funded sectors of WASH and
protection are needed.

Strengthened beneficiary accountability is required. Significant harmonization is ongoing in the
Government, UN and NGOs, when it comes to targeting, with communities in the driving seat. Efforts
are also underway for a harmonized approach for registration, implementation and monitoring.
Going forward, it would be important for all partners to collectively work towards harmonization of a
community feedback mechanism for strengthened beneficiary accountability.
Results of Operating as One

Operations activities in 2016 focused significantly on responding to an evolving countrywide cash crisis and its ramifications. The responses to the crisis were not part of planned activities, as the crisis only manifested seriously towards the middle of the year. Response actions included the drafting a detailed report on experiences and lessons learnt from the 2008/2009 cash crisis to inform responses to the obtaining crisis, as well as to draw up and activate a Contingency Response Plan to the crisis and its ramifications under which inter alia:

- Monetary and fiscal authorities were engaged at the highest levels to give assurances on the safety and ready accessibility to UN funds for both program and operational activities;
- Making arrangements to ‘ring fence’ UN Agency program funds disbursed to end beneficiaries through bank accounts of Implementing Partners (IPs);
- Arrangements were made with fuel suppliers to provide a ‘reserve fuel facility’ for UN Agencies and staff; and
- Staff who did not have bank accounts with Standard Chartered Bank (SCB), the main supplier of banking services to UN Agencies were supported to open accounts that enabled ready access to their monthly salaries and allowances.

The arrangements worked well in mitigating the negative impact of the crisis on UN Agencies and staff by promoting an uninterrupted program and operational activities, and upholding staff morale and productivity.

The planned activities for 2016 were guided by the UNCT endorsed Strategic Operations Framework (SOF) 2016-2020, a 5-year operational framework modelled as a lighter version of the the UNDG’s Business Operations Strategy (BOS). This in line with global practice and the UNDG’s increasing focus on enhancing the cost effectiveness and quality of operations, such as finance, human resources, information & communication technology, logistics & administration, and procurement in support of programme delivery. The OMT Annual Work Plans (AWP) serve as implementation tools for the SOF and the 2016 OMT AWP was the first such plan.

A number of key achievements were realized. The first OMT Annual Work Plan (AWP) to serve as an implementation tool for the SOF 2016 – 2020 was drawn up and successfully implemented; total cost savings amounting to USD 417,000 against a full year target of USD 221,755 were realized. The key contributors to the savings were in the areas of common services (real estate and security services), common procurement (mainly fuel), and human resources management (common training and joint staff recruitment). Common Long Term Agreements (LTAs) were established for internet services, security services, travel services, fuel supply, cleaning services, courier and customs clearance, printing services, design services, promotional/visibility items, and vehicle maintenance. In addition, the Harmonized Cash Transfer (HACT) Macro-assessment and 70 HACT Micro-assessments of implementing partners (IPs) for program cycle 2016 – 2020 were completed.
Results of Communicating as One

In line with the 2016-2020 UN in Zimbabwe Communications and Advocacy Strategy, the UNCT in Zimbabwe communicated UN supported results, promoted UN policy perspectives and raised awareness nation-wide on the SDGs throughout the year. The Annual Work Plan was endorsed by UNCT and funded to the tune of USD 65,000 on a cost sharing basis among members of the team. In an endeavor to enhance the quality of joint UN Communications products and tools, such as the website, Twitter, Facebook, newsletter, ZUNDAF results briefs and snapshots, approximately 74,100 people have been reached. This includes 30,000 users per month, through the website; 6,600 followers on Twitter and 5,500 followers on Facebook. Three newsletters have been published, with each copy disseminated to over 20,000 electronic and 2,000 in print recipients. Over 10,000 copies of the ZUNDAF results brief and ZUNDAF snapshot, six videos, and a number of action photos have been shared at different public fora.

Joint UN and development partners’ advocacy efforts were introduced for the first time to advance common issues, such as the drought response, and social issues, including gender based violence and ending child marriages. In addition, joint media advocacy activities, led by the UN Resident Coordinator were held with USAID, DFID, SIDA and the Australian Embassy.

All the above initiatives implemented resulted in the UN being systematically placed in the public domain and strategically positioned as a preferred and strong partner for development.

The awareness raising on SDGs has led to the establishment of a broad-based national partnership to raise awareness and commitment for the achievement of the goals. To mention but a few: i) the Parliament of Zimbabwe expressed its intent to promoting SDGs friendly laws and to have set up a parliamentary committee on SDGs; ii) Local Government (Provincial and District Level) committed to actively participate in planning, implementation and monitoring development programmes designed to achieve the SDGs; iii) young people in schools, in universities, and in their associations have been mobilized to own the SDGs and play their role in SDGs advocacy online and offline; and iv) the Media has become actively involved in promoting public discourse on SDGs. Finally, the UN has proactively communicated on and advocated for a coordinated and multi-sectoral response to the El Niño-induced drought from the onset. This consistent advocacy and communications efforts have not only enabled the drought situation to get urgent attention by policy and decision makers but also has contributed to mobilizing effective national and international response under a UN-led Humanitarian Response Plan.

In 2016, the UNCT maintained and enhanced strong media relations with close to 300 articles and stories that were printed and covered in the electronic media, which include 248 UN covering articles that were published online and in print media during 2016 compared to 135 articles in 2015. The role of the UN was showcased through facilitating 13 joint UN events successfully (such as the Radio Day, International Women’s Day, World Water Day, Press Freedom Day, World Humanitarian Day, UN Day, World AIDS Day, Human Rights Day); and other public platforms, such as the Model UN, Wednesday@UNIC; Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, Agricultural show, Zimbabwe International Book Fair and through local youth led platforms, such as theSpace and ZUNA. In addition, over 11 op-eds covering topics aligned to the ZUNDAF Results Areas, which include health, HIV AIDS, poverty, SDGs, effects of climate change, and humanitarian response, including the global humanitarian summit were published in the dailies and weekly papers and their online platforms. Twelve press releases on drought, child marriages, SDGs, partnerships, and HIV and AIDS were also issued and successfully placed in the media, in print and online. Thirteen radio and TV programmes were facilitated on ZBC, Zim-FM and Star FM thus allowing the UN personnel to engage with members of the general public and reaching an estimated 1.5-1.8 million listeners per session. Lastly, over 54,000 youth were engaged on the role and content of the SDGs.
## Financial Overview - Budgeted and disbursed resources towards the fifteen ZUNDAF Outcomes in 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZUNDAF Results area</th>
<th>ZUNDAF Outcome</th>
<th>Total Planned Expenditure for 2016-2020 (USD)</th>
<th>Disbursed amount 2016-2018 (USD)</th>
<th>20% Annual Review Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Food and Nutrition Security</strong></td>
<td>1.1 Targeted interventions in rural and urban areas have improved food and nutrition security</td>
<td>200,000,000</td>
<td>28,527,306</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2 Communities are equipped to cope with climate change and build resilience for improved food and nutrition security</td>
<td>800,000,000</td>
<td>6,345,321</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300,000,000</td>
<td>2,120,320</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75,000,000</td>
<td>2,700,637</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Gender Equality</strong></td>
<td>2.1 Enact measures on marriage, divorce, remarriage and separation and provisions to ensure gender parity and women's rights</td>
<td>150,000,000</td>
<td>2,451,255</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.2 Women and girls are empowered to effectively participate in social economic and political spheres and to utilize gender-based violence services</td>
<td>50,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.3 Key institutions from Government and civil society effectively and efficiently manage a multi sectoral response for gender equality</td>
<td>40,000,000</td>
<td>16,377,984</td>
<td>358.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. HIV &amp; AIDS</strong></td>
<td>3.1 All adults and children have increased HIV knowledge, and effective HIV prevention services, and are empowered to participate in leadership and capacity building to combat and/or address the spread of the epidemic</td>
<td>150,000,000</td>
<td>9,012,813</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.2 90% of all people living with HIV know their HIV status, at least 90% of HIV positive pregnant women receive antiretroviral therapy, and 90% of those on treatment have stable viral load suppression</td>
<td>50,000,000</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.3 Key institutions from Government and civil society effectively and efficiently manage a multi sectoral AIDS response</td>
<td>40,000,000</td>
<td>16,377,984</td>
<td>358.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Poverty Reduction and Value Addition</strong></td>
<td>4.1 Key institutions formulate and implement on the economy policies, strategies and programmes for improved livelihoods and reduced poverty of communities</td>
<td>150,000,000</td>
<td>1,370,240</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.2 Increased access to basic health care and other basic services and opportunities for vulnerable people</td>
<td>50,000,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.3 Key institutions from Government and civil society effectively and efficiently manage a multi sectoral response for poverty reduction and value addition</td>
<td>240,000,000</td>
<td>14,031,884</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Public Administration and Governance</strong></td>
<td>5.1 Key public sector institutions are more efficient and effective in service delivery</td>
<td>150,000,000</td>
<td>3,289,750</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.2 Increased civil servants participation in democratic processes in line with the provisions of the Constitution and relevant international standards and norms</td>
<td>40,000,000</td>
<td>4,256,642</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.3 Government and its partners generate and utilize data for development and assessment purposes</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>1,413,092</td>
<td>66.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. Social Services and Protection</strong></td>
<td>6.1 Vulnerable populations have increased access and utilization of quality basic social services</td>
<td>150,000,000</td>
<td>2,230,040</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.2 Key institutions provide quality and accessible basic social services</td>
<td>20,000,000</td>
<td>2,230,040</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.3 Key institutions are effectively and efficiently managing a multi sectoral social protection response for vulnerable populations</td>
<td>70,000,000</td>
<td>10,335,384</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1,618,000,000</td>
<td>14,651,339</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Humanitarian Response Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Sectoral Financial Requirement (USD)</th>
<th>Total Committment (USD)</th>
<th>Disbursed by UN (USD)</th>
<th>% of Financial requirement committed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Security and Agriculture</td>
<td>1,700,000,000</td>
<td>1,700,000,000</td>
<td>1,700,000,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>2,850,000,000</td>
<td>2,850,000,000</td>
<td>2,850,000,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>2,850,000,000</td>
<td>2,850,000,000</td>
<td>2,850,000,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection</td>
<td>9,000,000,000</td>
<td>9,000,000,000</td>
<td>9,000,000,000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** | 10,500,000,000 | 10,500,000,000 | 10,500,000,000 | 100.0% |
Lessons Learned and Way Forward

In close collaboration with Government and partners, the UN in Zimbabwe achieved most of the goals set for 2016, despite a challenging environment of a declining economy, key development partners phasing out and the El Niño-induced drought. Eight main lessons learned can be highlighted to inform the way forward for 2017 and beyond:

Results Groups must come up with priorities for implementation for 2017 and these should now be aligned to the SDG indicators to avoid siloed implementation of sustainable development efforts.

The process of domesticating the SDG indicators is currently underway. Focus is on establishing which indicators and baselines should be used to measure progress. Once chosen, the ZUNDAF indicators should be reviewed and aligned to the SDG indicators chosen for Zimbabwe. Noting the inter-linkages between the SDGs as well as the six Results Areas, the coordination and collaboration across the ZUNDAF Results Groups must be improved, for integrated programming and results.

Building on the quarterly Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Meetings held in 2016 for the drought response, the multi-stakeholder dialogue should be broadened in its scope to discuss resilience, development and policy issues.

From the outset of the drought response, the Office of the President and Cabinet and the UN Resident Coordinator have been jointly hosting Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Meetings in Harare, to provide a comprehensive overview of humanitarian needs and gaps and to ensure coordinated, multi-sectoral approach to planning and response. These meetings have been bringing together Government ministries, the UN, NGOs, development partners, private sector and the media. As the country transitions from humanitarian to recovery, resilience-building and longer-term development, the multi-stakeholder dialogue should continue with expanded mandate.

Slow onset disasters such as the El Niño-induced drought require early intervention and investment in strengthening community resilience.

The 2016-2020 ZUNDAF was designed to embrace both development assistance and residual humanitarian needs. In its first year of implementation, the impact and scale of the El Niño-induced drought necessitated a large-scale humanitarian response through the Humanitarian Response Plan. Going forward, the UN can strengthen the humanitarian-development nexus by including early warning and other DRM indicators in the ZUNDAF and regularly monitoring them to inform early action. Investment in strengthening community resilience would be key going forward, to reduce underlying causes of vulnerabilities and avert future crises.

Greater focus should be on results and go beyond inputs and outputs with increased efficiency and effectiveness.

A results-culture needs to be strengthened with greater focus on impact and the achievement of the 15 ZUNDAF outcomes. Inputs and outputs are means to that end. Discussion at the ZUNDAF Results Group should shift from information-sharing on the inputs and outputs, to strategic discussion around what impact the ZUNDAF interventions has achieved. ZUNDAF reporting should therefore improve on outcome reporting.

Implementation of laws, strategies, policies and plans would need to be accelerated.

Across sectors, the UN through the ZUNDAF have been supporting upstream work, such as drafting of laws and preparation of strategies, policies and plans. However, the implementation of these laws/strategies/policies/plan has seen limited progress. The limited progress in implementation may be partially attributed to financial and human resource constraints. Going forward, the ZUNDAF priorities would be on supporting the accelerated implementation of the laws/strategies/policies/plan that the UN supported to put in place.
Declining ODA would require delivery of quality results, better value-for-money and greater aid coordination. With ODA contributions generally dwindling, the donor base needs to be broadened to uphold a high delivery of development assistance. The UN needs to further pursue value-for-money. Greater aid coordination would need to be pursued to ensure greater synergies amongst the UN and development partners for maximum results, building on the draft aid coordination support framework supported by the UN and the outcome of the needs assessment to be undertaken in 2017.

Sustainability and national ownership/leadership are critical. With a declining economy, 2016 was not a year where increased domestic resource mobilization emerged. In the health sector, external funding currently constitutes over 50% of the total health spending in the country. Looking at spending on drugs and commodities alone, around 85% is from external funding. Other critical sectors show a similar dependence on external support. As current levels of development assistance cannot be taken for granted in the future and to secure a self-sufficient Zimbabwe, focusing on sustainability is critical. While currently over 90% of the 2016 national budget are going to salaries, the UN must provide support to accelerate ongoing reform efforts undertaken by the Government, including rationalization of the national budget, with greater investments and spending particularly towards social protection.

Implementation of the UPR recommendations and promotion of human rights, peace and democracy are key priorities for 2017 and should be included in the work plans for 2017 ZUNDAF Annual Planning. Building on the successful UPR in 2016, 2017 would be a year to start implementation of the UPR recommendations. The UN will prioritize support to the Government as the duty bearer to implement the UPR recommendations and to support continued multi-stakeholder dialogue around issues of human rights, peace and democracy.
Annex

I. Status of ZUNDAF Outcomes and Outcome Indicators in 2016