ZIM YOUTH FOR SDGs IN ACTION MAGAZINE Volume 2

GOVERNMENT NDS1 ADDRESSES SDGS

DRIVING SDGS IN ZIMBABWE, YOUTH MAKE IMPACT

UN CELEBRATES 75 YEARS

YOUNG PEOPLE ADVOCATING AND PARTNERING IN FIGHTING GBV

ZIMBABWE CO-HOSTS WITH GHANA THE AFRICAN YOUTH SDGS SUMMIT 2020















Zimbabwean youth, particularly the ZimYouthForSDGs have been proactively participating in advocacy and community mobilization for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Despite COVD-19 and other challenges, ZimYouthForSDGs has managed to establish presence in all the provinces and roll out community mobilization and youth engagement advocacy on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs throughout 2020.

The 2030 Agenda and its 17 goals remained the collective commitment and blueprint for recovering and building forward better. The advocacy campaigns the UN Communications Group in Zimbabwe jointly conducted with youth range from climate action, inclusion and rights of persons with disability, gender equality to peacebuilding promoting social cohesion at a time of social distancing, to advocating for harmony at a time of rising hatred are well noted and must continue with an increased momentum.COVID-19 has come on top of challenges caused by climatic shocks as well as a fragile economy. Its impact stretches beyond health and needs an all society and government response.

Thatis why the UNSystem in Zimbabwe continued to work with the Zimbabwean authorities, youth group, civil society, communities and other development stakeholders on food security, gender equality, sanitation, education, economic empowerment, and community resilience amongst others.

Throughout 2020, the 2016-2020 Zimbabwe UN Development Assistance Framework (ZUNDAF) remained key vehicle in support of the country's efforts to attain Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

The UNCT in Zimbabwe collectively delivered development support under the ZUNDAF in 2020 totaling nearly USD 554 million against a budget amount of USD 550 million. Since the implementation of the 2016-2021 ZUNDAF begun in 2016, the United Nations Development System in Zimbabwe with generous financial support from the Development Partners disbursed USD 1.64 billion in development grant contributing to national development priorities

The ZUNDAF continued to lay the ground for the UN system in Zimbabwe to deliver together including through initiatives such as the joint UN-European Union Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls as well as resilience building, youth and people living with disabilities.

The UN strongly believes that the true transformations of a country are tied to the values, dreams, and aspirations of its young people to always make it a better place for everyone, irrespective of age, color, gender, religion or ethnic origin. The creativity of the young generation is the single biggest opportunity to break frontiers for local solutions to local problems.

The UN works with various partners to create spaces for young people to experiment and find solutions for the social challenges facing the country including wider provision of connectivity to tackle limitations placed by, for example, the COVID-19 pandemic.

We hope the stories captured in this second edition of ZimYouthForSDGs magazine gives you a glimpse of the UN engagement with youth and the work and innovation of Zimbabwe's vibrant and industrious youth.

Wishing you a nice reading

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Harnessing youth power, time & skills is the only solution for Community Development

By Takudzwanashe Charlene Ndangana



The youths make up a significant proportion of demographic statistics and these youths should do their part in building their communities. However due to economic hardships in Zimbabwe many youths have experienced strain in their lives or within their homes. Many academic certificates harbor dust today, some youths left the country in search of greener pastures but when they realized that not all that glitters is gold, they took the first bus back home. Many youths have given up on their dreams and some of the children have lost interest in education because their older "graduates" siblings are jobless and their lives have become some sort of a routine.

Although everything in our community may seem to be falling apart, the youths should do their part in promoting community development by creating a safer and healthy environment for the members within their communities by fighting against social decay. People should live in a community where the young children are free to play with their peers regardless of their social status, gender or ethnic background. The young children always learn from their older "youth" siblings and therefore the youths should be respectful or avoid the use of foul language in order to create a happy, healthy community.

There are rare cases of people who share their mental problems when one is through a depression. However, when you spend a lot of time with someone, you are able to know the hardships that they are going through. If one is able to open up to their peer, discuss with them whatever they will be going through during that particular time, a lot of people will be able to open up about their experiences. It is possible to help victims of domestic violence, substance abuse and sexual abuse through the creation of support groups within the community. The support groups can be held at a particular church or even in the backyard of a particular individual in the community. When the community starts to embrace and accept victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence, they will feel the love of the community.

The youths should be in a position of educating others about supporting the young mothers and also support the new education act that was put in place supporting the young pregnant girls to continue with their education. They are able to receive quality education and they are not hindered from achieving their dreams.



Everyone makes mistakes but the most important thing is to learn from the mistakes. Instead of mocking these young mothers the youths can actually involve them in all the activities that they take part in. If the



youths support their peers the other members of the community will also support the young mothers rather than isolating them. The youths can help to build a better future by educating each other. Foe example, an accounting graduate can assist school children with commercial subjects and in the end the graduate is also empowered. The youths can create study groups and this will help them during their revision process or a book club that will promote the reading culture in the community.

Due to the water crisis, government and its civil partners have been able to drill communal boreholes and this has helped in curbing the spread of diseases such as cholera or diarrhea. Although the government drills the boreholes, it calls for the members of the community to come up with a flexible program that enables everyone to have access to clean water. This can also be done by the vibrant young people in the community, assisting the elderly people to make these programs in order to have an organized community.

Research has proved that the rate of poverty is much higher in urban areas as compared to the rural areas. In some communities, people have come up with soup kitchens and feeding programs so as to assist families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although soup kitchens are helpful, the youths can also create community gardens and every family will be allocated a particular portion where they can grow their vegetables. This will help to promote a self-sustainable community. Instead of the youths being idle they can learn a new skill to keep them busy and all we have to do is work together to build a community that is a safe place for everyone.



ZYC Plays a Pivotal Role in Legitimising Youth Led Business Enterprises

By Tatenda Mbira

The Covid-19 pandemic as much as it has hit hard on the economy, the young people were not spared. Having realised the severity of the endemic, the Zimbabwe Youth Council partnered the Registrar of Companies in implementing the Youth Enterprises Formalisation Outreach and has so far received overwhelming response from young people across the country. In line with the Government agenda under Vision 2030 to make Zimbabwe a Middleclass Income Economy by 2030, ZYC is spearheading formalisation of youth businesses.

So far the Zimbabwe Youth council has facilitated the registration of more than 750

youth led Private Business Corporations (PBCs) since the inception of the programme in August 2020. It is such a commendable move that the ZYC has taken it upon itself to make sure that thriving youth hustles are registered and young people can now have an opportunity to stand by themselves as legitimate business entities.

It is indeed every young Zimbabwean's wish to see government departments joining hands to make the youth situation is healthier.

Considering that over 60 percent of the country's workforce is informally employed, it should be a government priority to make sure that it formalises its economy.

For long, youth has been a marginalised group with little to no reserved funds on the nation budget for a couple of years now. From the available information it is clear that



in a position to know who is doing what and what type of assistance every business requires.

Though the process is still ongoing Zimbabwe Youth Council says it is still facing challenges in reaching out to every youth mainly due to the COVID 19 pandemic educed travel restrictions as most of rural youth do not have required resources and equipment to do the online.



"In pursuit of Youth Empowerment and Participatio

the gorvenment is on a move to elevate the young Zimbabwean. As Zimbabwe Youth Council we urge every young adult to come forth and take advantage of this initiative.

"Owning a business or profit making organisation should be a culture amongst youth and .we want them to be part of the pioneers in reviving this county's economy"

"This is an opportunity for young people to become part of national development processes as they will be contributing to the country's fiscus through taxes and employment creation. The focus is now on creating employment rather than seeking jobs." said Mr Sungano Chisina – Director for Business Development, Data and Research).

It is also a necessary step in eradicating poverty and realise the Zimbabwe we want. Once all this small businesses have all been registered it will be much easier for the government to give them support as it will be

"However we a planning to open fully fledged offices in every province and if resources permit, we will even cascade down to every district. We want to be where the youth are. We want to give them the support they need. So far we have opened an office in Chituingwiza to make sure we register as many PBCs as possible at the same time we will be decongesting our Harare offices. We are also in compliance with the recent lockdown restrictions as we do our business online.|" Added Mr Sungano Chisina

Of late youth have been facing challenges in accessing loans from banks and other financial institutions has they lacked required documents to apply for the loans. Now that we have given them the opportunity to formalise their bankable initiatives in form of Private Business Corporations (PBCs) Zimbabwe Youth Council predicts a rise in the number of youth being able to access funds from banks and other government programmes

Building towards a Climate Smart Generation

By Bright Rungano Marume

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly birthed and at the same time adopted seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at making the world a better place for all in a sustainable and resilient manner. This was in response to political, economic and social changes that are occuring world wide and a shift from the Mellinium Development Goals (MDGs) that guided development frameworks since the year 2000.



Amongst these SDGs is goal thirteen (13:Taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impact) which should be of much interest amongst the youth in terms of being active players in its implementation. This is so because the youths are the ones that are now more exposed to climate change related information from its hazards to resilience strategies. One can note that awareness on climate change and adaptation is being made from primary schools (where agriculture is now a compulsory part of the curiculum) up to college level. The internet is awash with such information as well as updates on the experiences that the world is having due to climate change such as floods like the recent ones in Luzon, heat waves and hail storms. Given all that exposure and knowlede on climate change issues, it is therefore the role of us as youth to complement national and international reactions to climate change through:

a.) Developing disaster preparedness and mitigation frameworks that can be used in the face of (potential) distasters in all disaster-prone areas.

b.) Developing manuals on climate smart agriculture and or agroecology as well as practising it.

c.) Developing manuals on agroforestry as well as forming tree planting clubs within communities

d.) Putting together ideas on how the industries can operate meaningfully in a climatesmart way.

Together as youth we can implement and operationalise strategies meant to combat climate change. This is to benefit our tomorrow and making the world a better place to live.

Disability Day

By Rangarirai Mangundu

My going to the University was a bag of mixed feelings. I was happy that tertiary education would bring independence to my constricted life, but fearful of a new life away from home, my comfort zone. However, life was very normal despite being a physically challenged student studying full time and staying on campus.

Having a severely compromised left hand and lost my right upper limb as a result of an electrical accident, I write considerably slower than others so I write short notes in class, paying more attention to grasp concepts. I frequently asked questions and discussed with my peers, a habit required of students, disabled or not. Tests and examinations are allocated enough time for me to attempt all questions, thus it gave me a fair chance to do my best.





Socially, I made friends with everyone I came across because they knew it is not a curse and wanted to be involved. Virtually everyone around me understands that disability is a perception and puts more emphasis on what I can do, regardless of how. Often times I get assisted by persons who never belittle me as a result, a quality that I owe gratitude to the invaluable education offered by the institution through taught communication skills.

In terms of accessibility, from a dedicated library to wireless access to the internet I could do my research with ease. Whenever I felt burdened to take the stairs, I would always follow the gentle ramps to get me there.

After a long academic day, I would do a bit of sports do help me to refresh before a long reading night, something no one can ever do for me. I never hoped for the best but for a a fair chance to do my best. The best did come, along with a realisation that I have to do my best in order to come out an expert at what I do and valuable to my country and people. Despite having started my first degree at the age of 26, I progressed very well and count distinctions in my bag. I am motivated by the fact that where there is life, there is a purpose and where there is a will, there is always a way, no matter how slow things may turn out to be.

As we celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) it is a day for all. The university system understands that disability is part of the human condition, it is my plea that all other areas of life be the same. The 2020 UN theme puts emphasis towards a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 World.

UZ has done it and empowered many like me, let us foster an inclusive culture and respond to the urgent needs of people living with disabilities in all aspects of society, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Education frees the mind and unlocks opportunities for self-sustenance, the more people living disabilities we educate, the more sustainable our society becomes.



Food Security Key in Promoting Peace in Zimbabwe By Anesu Mapisa

Farmbuzz is an award-winning agriculture technology and Consultancy Company which is promoting smart farming in Africa by bringing new farming technology solutions that can sustain the food production sector. We started this company in 2019 by providing agriculture consultancy services which later developed into what we are now calling Smart Farm Management. We then expanded and joined forces with other agriculture technology companies and started providing the farmers with different agriculture technologies like crop drone spraying technology, livestock artificial Insemination, soil moisture sensors, farm equipment hiring mobile app and many more.

As an agriculture startup, we have faced a lot of challenges which are mostly similar to any challenges Zimbabwean startups are facing. The major challenge is that the economy is not conducive for any business but we have brought in affordable solutions to the small-scale farmers that can't afford services like hiring a full-time qualified farm manager. Covid-19 also has affected us but we managed to quickly get back into business because like everywhere farming is an essential service so no matter what condition every human being will like to get something to eat.

Farmbuzz Agriculture Solutions is being run by 10 young agriprenuers with a passion of making Africa food secure. We have agronomist, biotechnologist, business managers, information and communication engineers and accountants. Farmbuzz Agriculture Solutions is also employing several agronomists on part time basis. We recruit the young people with more of enthusiasms and passion than just a mere qualification because our company is all about creating the best agriculture technology solutions.

Our biggest achievement was to register a lot of farmers including the biggest farms to work with us. In our first year we have managed to assist more than 500 farmers with consultancy services, we managed 5 farms with production, we developed online farm equipment hiring platform, got partnerships with the broadcasting services to start a smart farming tv show and last but not least we have participated in Zimbabwe's major agriculture events like Harare agriculture show.



My advice to the young people who aspire to start a business is to start the business. You start by starting and there will be no one to ring the bell for you to start. It's not a 100m race. If you have the idea, just start. My advice is start right where you are and fail fast. This will give you more time to learn and come back again into the business. Don't be afraid to fail. Failure is the right ingredient for success.

In our company we have started so many projects and failed despite the fact that I grew up at a farm and studied Agronomy at University. I still failed and to me it was ok because failure makes you uncomfortable and try hard and smart again. Starting at an early age will give you a lot of time to learn the business.

Our goal is to become the hub of all agriculture technology solutions in Africa. We believe that with the energy that our team have we will achieve it because fresh ideas are coming every day in such a way that with a good funding, we will be able to make Africa food secure.

Impact of Corruption On Youth Empowerment Towards Agenda 2030 For Sustainable Development

By David Zezai



Following the realization that corruption does not only affect the economic development of a country in terms of economic efficiency and growth, but it also affects equitable distribution of resources across the population, increasing income inequalities, undermining the effectiveness of social welfare programmes and ultimately resulting in lower levels of human potential. Zimbabwe Youth Sustainable Development Goals (ZYSDG) held a virtual dialogue on the 26th of January 2020 to unpack how corruption is affecting young people in Zimbabwe. The discussion was attended by Dr. Magiga (Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission - Head of Ethics and Public Education), Ms. Juliana Kariri (Zimbabwe Youth Council-Head of Compliance and Legal Affairs, Sandra Gutayi (Innovators Against Gender-Based Violence)- Gender Activist.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Jasper Mangwana – Executive Director of ZYSDG, reminded the

youth of Zimbabwe that they are key in driving the national vision for socio-economic transformation. "Young people should be very much active in assuming a leading role towards socio-economic development of their nation."

Dr. Magiga reiterated that Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) has a mandate to raise anticorruption awareness throughout the nation, and give a platform to Zimbabweans to report any form of corruption both in the private and public sectors. ZACC also has the mandate to investigate all cases reported across the nation, and to carry out systems and compliance reviews to make sure that it closes loopholes and ensure good ethic and corporate governance systems so that national development efforts are not thrown into the drain.

He further confirmed that the young generation is facing a myriad of challenges due to gendered corruption among other things.

"The Impact of corruption on youth is a sad story, depriving youth for startup capital due to corruption must be addressed. Youth do not have capacity to make independent decisions due to their compromised economic status, but are prone to abuse as political agencies due to desperation and subsequently affecting their contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)", he said.



Commenting on early marriages and early pregnancies, Dr Magiga added that, the future of youth is spoiled as they are left with no option than to be subjects of abuse.

Dr. Magiga made a statement on youth inclusion in the tendering process. "We need to raise awareness and make an inclusive tendering process as this can be an economic enabler for the youth who may not qualify for the bidding process, they do not have the minimum capital and equipment/assets needed for the rigorous bidding process, even though they may have the correct papers, and that may deter them from such an economic opportunity".

Dr. Magiga encouraged institutions to include youth in the national development agenda. "ZACC is ready to work with the youth, because the future of the country lies in their hands. Every institution should have a youth inclusive policy, and the youths themselves are challenged to prove that they are prepared to join the struggle to transform the nation."



Dr. Magiga warned big office bearers who employ people who are not qualified on the basis of patronage or nepotism, to desist from such unprofessional acts as that kills the spirit of development.

He said, "We cherish how things were done during the ancient times, look at the competence of the people who were given the task to construct, the great Zimbabwe ruins, it has been over a century now with no cement and no qualified engineers, but now we are doing a lot of sub-standard work due to corruption even with qualified engineers and better-quality materials. This system does not help in achieving both institutional and national goals".

In his conclusion, Dr Magiga assured the nation that they are now on a serious assets recovery drive, to get back all the il-gotten assets through a proper legal framework. He confirmed that Zimbabwe has well defined legislative frameworks which just at times lack a proper execution strategy, that can only be improved if the country invests in the youth and get empowered to walk the talk towards the national vision.



Ms. Julian Karere of Zimbabwe Youth Council, was also concerned about the level of corruption in our country. "If corruption is unchecked, it will cause serious threats to the national development efforts. Young people will end up thinking that corruption is the only way to unlock the available fortunes. However, if young people do not want to talk Ms. Sandra also showed a great concern on the issue of corruption as a very critical issue which hinder the national efforts to fight against gender-based violence. This is being exacerbated by our cultural values which are more patriarchal than otherwise. She indicated that gender inequalities are causing the deprievement of access to opportunities for women and affecting the development of the nation.

She said, "when the economy is not doing well, some of the impacts become more pronounced on young people especially girls. They will expose themselves to men, to get something on the table since they will be vulnerable.

Ms. Sandra, clarified the that COVID 19 has even worsened the situation and this is leading to the abuse of drugs as level of desperation increases due to scarcity. Sextortion has become a common result of corruption in academic institutions and working places as young girls and women are forced to offer sexual favors to corruptly attain specific services from the office bearers. "When resources are scarce those in power may take advantage to abuse those who are less privileged. Young people are not only victims of corruption by also perpetrators of corruption. Corruption has been woven into various social fabrics, and is destroying the work ethic among people. Most young people do not see chances of getting good opportunities through merit, but only through corrupt tendencies. There is a lot of work to be done to curb corruption", she said

Ms Sandra added that people should change their attitude by constantly talking about corruption on public platforms.

"We must not keep blaming each other but be actively engaging one another in the fight, otherwise the youth may end up inheriting an ethic of corruption", she added

As Zimbabwe aims to attain Agenda 2030 as an Upper Middle Income Economy, it is important to ensure that young people fight corruption as it is a barrier towards attaining the 17 Goals. The United Nations Convention against Corruption is the only legally binding international anti-corruption multilateral treaty. Negotiated by member states of the United Nations it has been adopted by the UN General Assembly in October 2003 and entered into force in December 2005

Agribusiness

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the insurance Council of Zimbobwe is pleased to invite entries for the 2021 insurance and Risk Management Research Competition. The competition is open to all insurance practitioners at all levels in the industry. University students at both undergraduate and past graduate levels, and all members of the public with an interest in the field of insurance and risk management.

The competition is designed to enrich the knowledge of insurance and risk management by encouraging research in various topics and to keep obreast of world trends in this field.

1. Research Topics

- 1.1 The feasibility of writing the motor book of business on a replacement value basis 7mbobwe
- The role of block chain in enhancing underwitting efficiency in the Zimbabwe's short 1.2 term insurance industry.
- 1.3 The role of Cyber Insurance in miligating cyber security risks in the financial services sector.

2. Terms of Reference

- The Researcher is required to submit a brief resuma.
- The research shall be presented in a written paper of within a minimum of 2 500 but not more than 5000 words. The body should be presented in the following order: 2.2
 - Abstract of 150 to 250 words.
 Main text including tables and figures of 2500 to 5 000 words.
 - iii) Appendices //) References
- 2.3
- All referencing must follow the Horvard Shile. Research should not have been lodged or published with any other journal 2.4 2.5
- The Manuscript must be typed using the Times New Roman with fant size 12 and spacing of

3. Schedules and Deadlines

- The 2021 research competition shall be launched on 1 May 2021. The research proposal shall be submitted by 31 May 2021. 3.1
- 3.2 3.3
- The research shall be submitted by the 30 October 2021. The adjudication of the Research shall be completed by 30 November 2021. 3.4

4. Schedules and Deadlines

Prizes will be awarded to winning researchers.

5. Entry Details

A written research proposal on one of the proposed research areas in 1, above should be submitted electronically to 102 between the 1st to 31 st May 2021, Askitance will be rendered to researchers requiring support in preparing the research proposals.

Further information on the competition can be obtained from:

Insurance Council of Zimbabwe No. 4 Josiah Tongogara Ave Harare. Timbobwe

Telephone: 263 86 7700 7101 Email icz@icz.co.zw



Youth Must #ActLocal and #ThinkGlobal in fighting Climate Change

By Cathrine Paada Kwinje

Farmbuzz is an award-winning agriculture technology and Consultancy Company which is promoting smart farming in Africa by bringing new farming technology solutions that can sustain the food production sector. We started this company in 2019 by providing agriculture consultancy services which later developed into what we are now calling Smart Farm Management. We then expanded and joined forces with other agriculture technology companies and started providing the farmers with different agriculture technologies like crop drone spraying technology, livestock artificial Insemination, soil moisture sensors, farm equipment hiring mobile app and many more.

As an agriculture startup, we have faced a lot of challenges which are mostly similar to any challenges Zimbabwean startups are facing. The major challenge is that the economy is not conducive for any business but we have brought in affordable solutions to the small-scale



Hon. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndlovu: Minister of Environment, Climate Change, Tourism & Hospitality Industry

Climatic and environmentally related disasters which threaten human security can induce forced migration and produce competition among communities and nations for water and basic needs, with potential negative consequences for political stability and a threat to conflict resolution. Reflecting on the impacts of climate change made me to realize that, as youths we have a role to play in fighting against the manmade enemy. It is a decade of action for youth to promote action against climate change. If truth be told, there is only one planet and we are the generation facing the perilous effects of climate change. It should sink into the heads of the youths that we should not sit back and watch the devastating effects of climate change as it is suicidal. The youths have a role to speak up on climate issues. The voices of the youths must be heard. The youths in different countries across the globe have the role in advocating for action to curb against climate change. Thales Dantas once said, "the youth must speak up". As an individual or group, they must spread the message. Everyone must hear the issues of climate change, be it young or old. We are a generation that should stop climate change through our voices. Every conversation must focus on how we can protect our environment and every person must be aware of the negative effects of climatic changes that are taking place. For example, the youths in Tourism can drop one or two activities which promote clean climate and the environment as they make packages of tourism tours. Our voices can change the attitude of individuals, governments, families, friends, tourists to mention but a few. #elevateyourvoices.



The youths have a role in pushing forward the climate change movement. Dantas said, "Join a movement". They can join organizations which are created with the agenda of fighting to build or bring out innovative solutions on climate change. Various groups across the world were created and some of the examples are Global Shapers, Youth Hub Africa Sustainable Development Solutions Networks, Zimbabwe Youths Sustainable Development Goals (ZYSDGs) to bring together youths with the same vision on climate change. These groups create a platform for youths to deliberate on issues to do with climate change. Through the groups, the youths can come up with innovative solutions which can harness the challenges of climate change #climatechangemovement.

Every action matter whether big or small. One youth can ask, "What can I do when I don't have the resources to put into climate change initiatives". Dantas said, "Change your lifestyle". Change the way you see things around your community. It is the role of youths within communities to lead by example in terms of changing the way communities operate. Change that habit of littering, cutting down trees and buy that shopping bag which is recyclable. One can even use organic manure in a backyard garden. If that lifestyle is practiced by youth at local, national, continental and global scale we will see the change that we want #actlocal #thinkglobal.

Zimbabwean youths can play their role in promoting climate action and young people all over the world have begun to fight back on a scale never seen before. Think of a young lady named Greta Thunberg. The 15-yearold by then ignited a global drive of schoolage students demanding greater action from governments to fight climate change. Millions of people marched to demonstrate their support. If she did it, then why not us Zimbabwean youths? If not now, then when? Let us tap into our skills and expertise whether through education, arts, culture, technology, food and beverage, agriculture, science, theology to elevate our voices for climate change.

Manica Youth Assembly Embarks On A Tree Planting Drive By Manica Youth Assembly

"GROW YOUR OWN FOREST"

MAYA has planted 100 Whistling Pine trees at the moment at Dangamvura Mountain along Feruka road next to Golden Peacock Villa Hotel. This was done to kick start December tree planting which is usually commemorated on the first Saturday of December and many activities commence later countrywide. Planting of trees is critical in responding to climate change, deforestation and in so doing this will help trees to replenish and provide the much needed fresh air.

Moreover, the tree planting will be cascaded to other communities and also engage school kids, train them at a young stage so they grow up as responsible citizens who are capable of planting trees and knowing the paramount importance of knowing them. There are a lot of merits in planting trees which are not only limited to fresh air but also providing shade, providing mulch from the tree leaves, roots helping to hold together the much needed top soil amongst other merits.





MAYA is providing training to youths, to take care of the environment so that it will inturn take care of them and the community. The 100 whistling pine tree plants as a startup number, will go a long way in helping to protect the Dangamvura Mountain and the surrounding areas.

The act of planting must not be seen as the end of this process. Aftercare is absolutely vital for young and newly planted trees. Without aftercare, we could plant many trees that simply die or don't grow to a size where they can provide benefits.

#MAYA for Environmental Protection.

Tell a friend about MAYA and bring a friend to MAYA



Young People Rise

By Millicent Nyikadzino



1Timothy 1:12

Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity

Being youthful is something that we should cherish as the young generation, not only because of the rights and privileges that are extended to us by our national constitution but also because of the great abilities that we possess. As a young person you have a role to play, it's high time you discover your passion and write down your vision so you can run with it. If you are passionate about playing soccer, it's time you develop your skill and become the best in your field because you have the capacity. Our open scripture gives us a mandate to set an example for other believers in word, in love and in life. Because we are energetic and innovative, let's take that advantage to influence policy making and impact our communities.

Take every day as a learning opportunity, do not let a day pass by without learning something new. Because you can only be a youth once in your lifetime, grab the opportunity to build a legacy and make a significant impact in your world. Build a legacy for your children and grandchildren.



Do not waste time and opportunities, surround yourself with individuals who force you to become a better person every day, people who help to bring out the best in you.

Break and overcome all the hurdles that may stand in your way. Refuse to let the pang of fear become a block to your success

Challenge

- Identify what you are passionate about.
- Make steps on how you are going to make your passions come into reality.
- Chase your passions and become excellent in your field.

- Learn something new every day for example learning a new recipe, searching for new words etc.

#ItsYourTimeToShine
#YoungPeopleRise

NEAT Partners Kadoma City Council in promoting green cities



National Environmental Awareness Trust (NEAT) has adopted one of the Kadoma city streets in order to beautify it.

The organisation decided to adopt Mkwati Street in order to support the initiative which was started by the government to have clean cities in Zimbabwe and in support of Sustainable development goals (SDGS). The deal is in partnership with the Kadoma City Council.

NEAT aims to educate people who make up the communities on issues of sustainable living, climate change and greening the environment.

This will be done through basic programs, projects and educational meetings as well as awareness on environmental degradation, climate and its extended impacts in Zimbabwe.

N.E.A.T is a non Governmental Organization that is there to bring awareness on environmental issues/management.That is awareness on environmental degradation and the extend of its impacts in Zimbabwe, To educate the common man that make up the communities on issues of sustainable living,climate change through basic programs,projects and educational meetings.

NEAT decided to adopt a street as to support the initiative by the Government to have clean cities in Zimbabwe which is environmentally friendly. Clean city begins with a one street so we decided to partner with Kadoma City Council and adopt Mkwati street so that it can be our starting point that will pave way to the establishment of a clean City.In this street we will try to address issues to do with waste management, energy renewal and basically greening our town.The responsibility of taking care of the street is for everyone in the community. N.E.A.T will involve every one in the community who wishes to participate so that we can achieve this goal.

So we have started by clearing and planting flowers and trees as well as removing trush in Mkwati Street in Kadoma.

The partnership with the City of Kadoma is commendable and as NEAT we sought to establish a clean city.

We shall demonstrate that the city can be clean.

Preparations are in place to engage partners who will support this initiative.

Children's Rights important in creating a responsible community

By Sibongile Maruta

Rights are the basic legal, social or ethical entitlements of any human being, including children; for example, the right to health or the right to protection from violence. Children are amongst the most vulnerable and powerless members of our societies today. Children and young people have the same general human rights as adults and also specific rights that recognize their special needs

Zimbabwe has legal and policy framework to protect the right of the child with his or her parents. These rights are enshrined in the Children's Act and the Constitution. Paragraph (i) Section 2 of Section 81 of the Constitution, a child's best interests are paramount in every matter concerning the child.

Many African children's rights are being infringed in areas such as health, education, child labour, child-headed security. households, participation in wars, forced circumcision, corporal punishment, child marriages, and homelessness. There are multiple causes for this rights' infringement phenomenon, including basic lack of respect for the rule of law, traditional practices, and idiosyncratic beliefs. Even though the situation may be better in certain urban areas, the situation is serious in many townships and in the rural areas and informal settlements of Africa.

Children have the right to survive, develop, be protected and participate in decisions that impact their lives. They have the right to family care, love and protection and the responsibility to show love, respect and caring to others especially the elderly. The right to a clean environment and the responsibility to take care of their environment by cleaning the space they live in. There is need to protect children from mental and physical violence, injustice, negligence, abuse, sexual abuse and other threats.



One of the key aspects of a person having a right is that there is a corresponding responsibility on someone else to ensure that the right is fulfilled or respected. Children's youth, vulnerability and lack of power mean that they are dependent on adults to ensure that their needs and rights are met. This places responsibility on adults to create the necessary conditions to ensure this happens. The UN Convention describes governments as the primary duty bearers. This means governments, more than any other institution or organisation, have both the duty and the responsibility of fulfilling the rights of children. These responsibilities include the fulfilment of rights for individual children; for example, access to health care and education. They also include the development of public policies that positively influence children's health and development; for example, adequate housing, safe transport, protection of the environment, a healthy economy and the elimination of poverty.

The outbreak of covid-19 in Zimbabwe is having drastic consequences to the health and wellbeing of children and their families in both urban and rural areas. They are facing significant risks to their nutritional status and well-being especially in contexts where access to essential health and nutrition services and affordable basic nutritious diets is constrained.

The current food crisis is severely impacting on the quality, frequency and diversity of children's diets. Infants, children and breastfeeding mothers are consuming what is available, regardless of the nutritional value status of the foods.

This is compounded by the inability for families across the country to provide adequate childcare during these increasingly challenging times of the pandemic. Appropriate and timely support of maternal, infant, and young child nutrition are essential to save lives, protect child nutrition, support mothers, and support the health and development of the nation. There is also an urgent need to ensure that we come up with innovative contingency strategies to ensure that children continue to receive their school feeding portions during the lockdown, while mothers receive accurate advice and support on breastfeeding.



Education Stakeholders Call For Equal Opportunities For All Students Amidst Covid-19

THE Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe (PTUZ) is calling for inclusivity in the virtual learning system that has been adopted by Government especially regarding the students living with disabilities.

PTUZ National secretary for young teachers, Mr Lovejoy Sibanda, during a virtual panel discussion hosted by the Zimbabwe Youth Sustainable Development Goals (ZYSDG) themed "Impact of Covid-19 to the Quality of Education in Zimbabwe", emphasised the need for government to take into account the plight of students living with disabilities so that the can also be included in these virtual lessons.

"It is very sad to note that this virtual learning system has created divisions among the students' body in the nation. It is a great advantage for the able-bodied students who can either listen in to the radio lessons or engage with the teachers either through texts or videos but their visually impaired colleagues and those that are blind cannot enjoy the same benefits," he said.



Mr Sibanda called for measures that would help students living with disabilities to cope with the new way of learning and to avoid leaving them behind.

"We should all work on making sure that everyone is included, introducing television lessons with sign language interpretation would be a good start so that all the students will be able to move forward with the syllabus at the same pace," said Mr Sibanda.

"Government should constantly engage stakeholders in the education sector so that we also air our views and help in making the education sector of the country better and also improve the quality of education being offered in the country," he said.

Meanwhile, the issue of data was another major highlight of the discussion.

University of Zimbabwe Lecturer Dr Thebeth Masunda who was also a panellist said the issues of data are a problem for both the students and the lecturers because when the semester started no one had planned for a virtual type of learning and so no budget was put in place for that.

"Data is a major hindrance to the success of these virtual lessons because most students cannot afford the exorbitant prices being charged by network providers and thus they end up on taking part in the virtual lessons which then makes it hard for the lecturer to teach a few students who can afford data and leave out the rest of the class," she said.

Shot In The Arm For Fifty Young People Across The Country

By Tanyaradzwa Mutizwa



The Zimbabwe Youth Sustainable Development Goals together with Premium Access eLearning Solutions have successfully launched their partnership program.

Speaking during the virtual launch this afternoon, ZimYouth SDG executive director Mr Jasper Mangwana said the partnership is only just beginning and it xwill see more young people benefiting.

"This partnership is an agreement between ZimYouth SDG and Premium Access eLearning Solutions whereby we are going to equip 50 young people,5 from each province with basic entrepreneurship knowledge through an online course. This is the first of its kind and the young people will gain an internationally recognised certificate after the completion of the program" said Mr Mangwana. Speaking during the launch, International Labour Organisation Green Enterprise Project Manager Alice Vozza said private sector companies should adopt green technologies which will help in the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

"Private sector play a crucial role in creating and promoting green businesses since 90 percent of the jobs come from the private sector, "she said.

Mrs Vozza said there is a great need for organisations to reduce the amount of emissions their businesses are emitting into the environment through adopting clean sources of power such as solar energy.

"A green entrepreneur identifies and solves problems by identifying and implementing sustainable changes for a profit, "said Mrs Vozza.

Mrs Vozza encouraged the youth entrepreneurs to tap into recycling industry. "There are missed opportunities in our dumpsites in Zimbabwe.There are a lot of recyclable materials that can be sorted and used in making different things,"she said.

Mrs Vozza emphasised on the need for stakeholder involvement in issues to do with the environment like pollution and waste management.

Sibongile Sibanda Project Manager for Fine Touch encouraged the young people to be able to take up responsibility.





"Being an entrepreneur means taking responsibility beyond making money. Entrepreneurship is about seeing what is ahead and confidence and innovation is key, "she said.

Mrs Sibanda said funding should not limit entrepreneurs, money follows good ideas.

JIC International President Mr Itai Manyere who was also a panelist said the young people have a crucial role in the attainment of SDGs and there will only be attained through action on the ground.

"Utilise all the opportunities on the ground and let us be able to tap into the wealth of knowledge and build resilient businesses, "he said.

Zimbabwe co-hosts with Ghana the African Youth SDGs Summit 2020

From 4-5 November 2020, the 3rd African Youth SDGs Summit brought together several thousand young people, business and civil society leaders, and representatives from the United Nations to amplify the role of Africa's young people in the Sustainable Development Goals. Led by Youth Advocates Ghana (YAG) alongside UNFPA Ghana Country Office, IAYG, the Ghanaian Ministry of Planning, United Nations Ghana, and other key organizing partners The Zimbabwe Youth SDGs, the Summit was held through a hybrid format. In addition to participants joining virtually from around the world (Convenor Emmanuel Ametepey estimates 2,800 through direct and 15,000 through indirect channels), 278 participants joined in person at the Alisa Hotel in Accra, Ghana according to public health guidelines.

The Summit's theme was "securing the 2030 commitment beyond the post-COVID-19 era." While the event was originally slated for July 2020, it was postponed in the spring as the 2019-2020 COVID-19 pandemic transformed planning possibilities almost overnight. The event, in turn, was postponed to November, and the newly chosen theme tackled one of the greatest challenges posed by the pandemic: that in addition to defeating the virus in the short run, youth, communities and governments must also focus on the longerterm challenge of catalysing sustainable development. As Emmanuel Ametepey, the Summit convenor and Executive Director of Youth Advocates Ghana (YAG), stated in his opening address, "while everything about the world seems to have changed, I know that our attendees' passion, confidence, and focus on sustainable development has not."



... creating the Africa we want

To this end, the session topics, designed by IAYG, featured important issues like "Africa's Twenty-First Century City: Smarter, Stronger, and Safer Urbanization" and "Silicon Africa," an innovative panel on entrepreneurship, the gig economy, and high-tech opportunities for young people. The event began on the 4th of November with a musical and cultural display. The first plenary session, "Building sustainable public health systems after COVID-19," tackled the 'elephant in the room', as the event description noted. The opening ceremony began at 12:10 local time with welcome remarks from Sylvester Tetteh, the Chief Executive Officer of the National Youth Authority, as well as addresses from Charles Abani, the UN Resident Coordinator in Ghana, Caroline Makasa, the Acting Director General for the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa, and distinguished Summit patrons. Summit attendees heard from leaders advocating for the SDGs around the world. Professor Senait Fisseha, Chief Advisor to the Director-General of the WHO and Director for Global Programs at the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation, reminded attendees that "COVID-19 has laid bare the vast inequalities in our health systems, while showing us how interconnected our world is. We must work in partnership with one another across borders, health areas, and ideologies." And Diane Keita, the Deputy Executive Director, Programme at UNFPA, focused on the role of youth in that 'partnership,' addressing the audience that "investment in young people to harness the demographic dividend remains crucial."





Later events included side events hosted by Care International Ghana, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, UNFPA Ghana, and IAYG. On Thursday, the opening plenary focused on the African Continental Free Trade Programme, and later events highlighted issues of gender equality. Even the lunch was productive, accentuated by UNFPA Ghana's condomize campaign. The hybrid event presented a unique situation; 1,267 registrations had been made, so many attendees were watching through Facebook live-streams or joining events on Zoom. It was a truly global affair. While Convenor Emmanuel Ametepey, the secretariat. and partners at Zimbabwe Youth SDGs were executing the in-person event, IAYG Deputy Director for Communications and Public Affairs Kyle Singson, whose team coordinated the public communications & social media strategy leading up to the Summit, was helping to share highlights from the event for viewers worldwide from the Philippines.

In his opening address, Emmanuel Ametepey highlighted two exciting additions to this vear's Summit. First, he shared that "Youth Advocates Ghana. in collaboration with Melton Foundation. TechFarmHub. GrassrootHub and the Unleash have launched the SDGs Innovation Challenge." With the goal to identify and scale up nearly 10,000 solutions by 2030, the Innovation Challenge kicked off a week before the Summit with more than two dozen participants and keynote speaker Nelson Amo, the CEO of Innohub. Top solutions were presented at the Summit. Second, recognizing that the role of youth in development "is a pan-African cause," Mr. Ametepey shared that a new location for the 4th Summit would be unveiled. At the end of the Summit, participants celebrated the selection of Addis Ababa, the home of the African Union, as the host city for the 4th Summit next year.

The organizing partners of the event made great efforts to support the Summit's success.

Summit partners, including representatives from Nestlé West and Central Africa, Arigatou International, the Melton Foundation, and other organizations, helped advise its organization as the secretariat moved to organize in record time. "I am enormously grateful to Kyle, Samay, Tiffany, and Rishi for their work on the Summit," said IAYG President Phillip Meng. "From writing press releases to designing the website to listing registrations, it was a real honor for us to help make the event and its important mission possible."

Even then, the event did not occur without hiccups. Technical issues with virtual-format side events led to several event cancellations and the Summit secretariat is committed to offering remedies and learning from the errors.

But even when challenges were presented, the dedication of the young people shone through. Perhaps Jayathma Wickramanayake, the United Nations Youth Envoy, said it best. "Young people have the will, creativity, and activism to help create more sustainable, inclusive, just and equitable institutions and societies." Here in Accra, and around the world, young people and their champions were working to do just that. And next year, in Addis Ababa, we look forward to continuing the story.







The World Bank in Zimbabwe works with Government, other Agencies, Organizations and the Community through the Zimbabwe Reconstruction Fund, Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project and the Health Sector Development Project. The Bank also provides Technical Assistance.

TO END POVERTY AND BOOST SHARED PROSPERITY

Website: https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/zimbabwe

ZIMBABWE YOUTH COUNCIL



PBC REGISTRATION

Youth Business Formalisation through ZYC

The Zimbabwe Youth Council and the Registrar of companies under the COVID 19 Youth Relief Programme have partnered to spearhead registration and formation of Youth Businesses in line with the call by His Excellence President ED Mnangagwa to formalise all businesses.

> For more information please follow us on Twitter: @zimyouthcouncil Facebook: Zimbabwe Youth Council Email: youthzim@gmail.com or call Communications Director Mr T. Guranungo on 0772 915 473

"In Pursuit of Youth Empowerment and Participation"

The Environment And Covid-19 Matters

By Manica Youth Assembly

The interrelationship between COVID-19 and the environment is an emerging research topic. COVID-19 has changed the way we live, and work, as various health and safety restrictions keep more of us at home more often. The resulting clings to our behaviour are already impacting the environment around us in a myriad way. Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is spreading globally, which is not merely a health problem, but also affects the world economy and the environment in diverse ways.

COVID-19 is the most urgent threat facing humanity today, but we cannot forget that climate change is the biggest threat facing humanity over the long term. Against this backdrop, the measures taken to control the spread of the virus and the slowdown of economic activities have significant effects on the environment.



The global disruption caused by the COVID-19 has brought about several effects on the environment and climate. Due to movement restrictions and a significant slowdown of social and economic activities, air quality has improved in the Zimbabwean cities with a reduction in water pollution in different parts of the country. Besides, increased use of PPE (for instance, face mask, hand gloves etc), their haphazard disposal, and generation of a huge amount of hospital waste has negative impacts on the environment.

Reduction of air pollution and GHGs emission has become a norm as industries, transportation and companies have closed down, it has brought a sudden drop of greenhouses gases (GHGs)emissions. Reduction of water pollution has been seen especially during this lockdown period, when the major industrial sources of pollution have shrunk or completely stopped, which helped to reduce the pollution load.

Furthermore, negative environmental effects are evident in the increase of biomedical waste generation which has increased globally and is a major threat to public health and environment. For instance, a sample collection of the suspected COVID-19 patients, diagnosis treatment of huge number of patients and disinfection purpose, lots of infections and biomedical wastes are generated from hospitals. In this light, it means that waste generated from the hospitals for example, needles, syringes, bandage, masks, gloves, used tissue, and discarded medicines should be managed properly, to reduce further infection and environmental pollution, which has now become a matter of concern globally.

Safety equipment use and haphazard disposal to protect from the viral infection has also contributed as people are using face mask, hand gloves and other safety



equipment, which increase the amount of health care waste. This exposes that, trash amount has increased due to increased PPE use at the domestic level. The genesis of the COVID-19 has witnessed, the production and usage of plastic based PPE. At this juncture, such haphazard dumping of these trashes creates clogging in water ways and worsens environmental pollution.

With COVID-19 pandemic continuing to spread, national and local governments are urged to treat waste management, including medical, household and other hazardous waste, as an urgent and essential public service in order to minimise possible secondary impacts upon health and environment. The COVID-19 pandemic is a crisis that is affecting everyone. The same human activities that drive climate change and biodiversity loss also drive pandemic risk through their impacts on our environment.

Furthermore, Manica Youth Assembly (MAYA) posits that we can make many smart investments to avert another outbreak. We also need to take climate action to prevent the next pandemic for instance, preventing deforestation-a root cause of climate change can help stem biodiversity loss. When COVID-19 eases, and we are ready to restart our economy, we can make our workforce healthier and more climate-resilient through scaling-up our investments in low-carbon technologies.

The COVID-19 crisis reveals a clear truth about catastrophic risk in an increasing globalized world: an effective response requires immediate, ambitious and evidencebased preventive action at the international level. To avert future global threats, including pandemics, we must protect rights to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment upon which we all depend for our health and well-being.

MAYA advocates for a human rightsbased approach to the COVID-19 crisis which is a paramount need to address its unequal impacts on the poor, vulnerable and marginalised and its underlying drivers including environmental degradation.



Youth advocates and partners in fighting Gender Based Violence

By Sibongile Maruta

Experts in the GBV agree that Gender based Violence disproportionately affects women and girls from excluded or vulnerable populations. Gender-based violence isn't just a women's issue, it is a human rights issue, and it must end.

In Zimbabwe, 17 percent of girls' first experience of sexual intercourse is physically forced or coerce. Experiences with violence are inextricably linked to HIV risk among adolescent girls and young women

As the government placed restrictions on mobility due to COVID-19 in Zimbabwe, many adolescent girls and young women were forced to stay at home with their abusers, leading to a drastic increase in GBV in the country. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown in March, Zimbabwe experienced a 60 percent increase in reported cases of GBV, with the national GBV Hotline, Musasa, receiving a total of 4,616 GBV-related calls during the lockdown period of March 30 to July.



In most developing countries a special focus needs to be put on reaching out to young people since they constitute a much larger section of the population. GBV increases women and girls' vulnerability, disempowers them to participate socially, economically and politically, and leaves the survivors with long lasting traumas. Evidence shows that GBV affects every aspect of well-being, including personal agency and self-actualization, educational achievement, livelihood, employment prospects and physical and emotional welfare. Effective GBV programs must address factors that limit women's power and abilities; they must turn the patterns of discriminatory cultures upside down

GBV is highly intertwined by a culture of silence, prejudice, and myths about femininity that portrays women and girls as objects that are owned by men, tools for reproduction, and second-order creatures that should submit wholeheartedly to men. In most African countries, many cultural norms still dictate that women are inferior to men like children they can't make sound decisions, they must be controlled by men. Norms also depict boys as superior to girls, so they should be given all opportunities: education, inheritance, land, jobs, leadership, status, respect, amongst others.



In order to achieve this, there are approaches that enable the youth to understand power dynamics at relational and societal levels that underlie violence, to explore and strengthen their personal values and identities, experience personal strengths and activism, and build movement and voice to respond to the cycles of violence. Youth participation ensures that young people actively influence the development of their environment due to their participation and co-determination in social processes and that assume responsibility for their projects and their environment.

Programs must harness the power of vulnerable youth to respond to violence and make impact in their communities. There is need to implement projects that are founded on a peerto-peer approach, build strong, inclusive and gender-sensitive peer group processes, address power dynamics within and across groups, offer a model of positive or respectful adult-youth partnership and support youth-led community activism on GBV. The government, Women Action Group, USaid through dreams, UNFPA, UN, The Embassy of Canada to Zimbabwe amongst others, partnered with local and international organisations for a series of projects to address gender-based violence and encourage women's rights and gender equality.

Artists Join Hands In Celebrating The Peace Day Pinned Under The Theme Shaping Peace Together

By Tauya M Zimano

The International Peace Day 2020 was pinned under the theme "Shaping Peace Together". This was a spectacular event in 2020's calendar as it brought together young people who united together with one common goal to shape and build peace in unison. Development can only be accomplished in an environment that promotes peace, but if peace as we all knows is largely a social construct and the best viable way to come to its realization is if people unite and come up with ways of living together in harmony.

We are living in difficult times, and because of difficulties being faced by our present generations ideological differences are being birthed. If not monitored well these can lead to socio-economic and political instability within the global landscape. We have overwhelming evidence that supports the above-mentioned verdict but the most important thing is to ensure that regardless of the differences in ideology and opinions we have to come together as one people and create solutions that promote the growth and development of our communities.





Tauya Zimano

The ZimYouthSDGs led a campaign and a gala that brought was aimed at uniting young artist to drive the Agenda of Building Peace together using their various gifts and talents. This group of people consisted of Musicians, Dancers, Poets, Producers and Actors. The message was clear "Let's Build Peace Together". As an organisation that champions the Youth drive towards the realizations of the Global Goals in Zimbabwe, the ZimYouthSDGs joined hands with various organizations which made sure that this event was a success. These include UN In Zimbabwe, BigBass Studios (LiveStreaming Sessions of the Event), LiveShed Studios (Enock Rughube – Musical Producer). Also, the Artist that took part in this event include Obert Chari (Mebo HitMaker) who had a spectacular performance as he presented a Duet with Tauya M Zimano (Excellence) on a song titled "Runvararo".



Runyararo is a song that combines 2 diverse artists from different genres who come up with a traditional sound that has a contemporary signature whose message coins the voice of Peace. "Kana tikabatana sevanhu vamwe, hakuna kuvengana rusarura ganda panyika" these are some of the lyrics in their song and being interpreted in English they say "If we unite as one people, they won't be hatred, racial segregation amongst one another". Also, a couple came in through with a classic performance that left everyone in Awe as to how can possible a couple can do such magic. The couple is George and Plaxedes Tamisai who came in through with a song titled "Peace Song". Their message was so deep as it was dedicated to the young people encouraging them to become intentional drivers of peace. "Vechidiki tinebasa rekukurudzira runyararo pasi rose" these are a part of their lyrics and being translated to English they say "The Youth have the duty to drive and build peace in the whole world". However we also had The Zimbo Dancers who displayed their chorechraphy skills which then led to the ZimYouthSDGs Family taking part in the Jerusalem Challenge.

As the drivers of the Sustainable development goals it is vital to make sure that our global space is conducive and the best way to ensure that is if we become intentional drivers towards promoting Peace. SDG Number 16 target is "To promote peace, justice and strong institutions. And to make sure that we accomplish this we have to follow these nuggets which are the targets to establish Global Peace.

UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Maria Ribeiro | Message on United Nations Day



At the centre of the UN charter are the principles of universal human rights, peace and development.

Today is an important day. Seventy-five (75) years ago the UN Charter was endorsed and the United Nations organization was born.

In Zimbabwe, UN day is an opportunity to meet and reflect and recommit ourselves to the principles of the Charter of the UN and the organization's ambitions as we move towards the SDG and Agenda 2030.

COVID-19 pandemic means we meet virtually this year to celebrate the World's organization that now boasts 193 member states, including Zimbabwe since 1980.

At the centre of the UN charter are the principles of universal human rights, peace and development.

This mission is even more relevant today as countries address the COVID-19 pandemic, a colossal challenge. Years of hardwon development gains are under threat of being undone. The pandemic has compelled us to convene and communicate in different and innovative ways. COVID-19 is also an opportunity to build "forward" better, together and ensure we do not lose sight of the sustainable development goals.

The UN family in Zimbabwe has been hard at work to support the national response to stem the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on people's lives. As part of the immediate response, the UN has supported awareness raising, procurement of PPEs, strengthening laboratory system for surveillance, infection prevention, and continuity of essential services.

COVID-19 has come on top of challenges caused by climatic shocks as well as a fragile economy.

Its impact stretches beyond health and needs an all society and government response. That is why the UN family in Zimbabwe continues to work with the Zimbabwean authorities, civil society and other development stakeholders on food security, gender equality, sanitation, education, economic empowerment and community resilience amongst others. We take this opportunity to also thank our donors and development partners who support our work in favour of people of Zimbabwe, especially those most vulnerable.

The UN continues to deliver also on humanitarian assistance to 5.6 million Zimbabweans affected by drought, economic hardship and the residual impact of Cyclone Idai.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs remain our collective commitment and blueprint for recovering and building forward better. As the Government develops its national development strategy, the UN looks forward to formulating together how we can best support national efforts towards SDGs and inclusive development through a new sustainable development cooperation framework.

The 75th anniversary coincides with Zimbabwe's 40th anniversary as an independent nation, a time to reflect and continue to advance human rights, justice and strong institutions to ensure a better life for all its people.

As the Secretary General noted:

'The Charter's vision stands the test of time and its values will continue to carry us forward. Now is the time to persevere, press ahead, pursue our goals, show responsibility for our world, and take care of each other.' Happy UN Day, Zimbabwe.

Thank you, Tatenda, Siyabonga!



Youth Engagement For Global Action – International Youth Day 2020



The Zimbabwe Youth Sustainable Development Goals together with its partners United Nations in Zimbabwe, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Recreation and the Ministry of Public Service, labour and Social Welfare celebrated the international Youth Day on the 12th of August 2020.

The celebrations for the year ran under the theme "Youth Engagement for Global Action" and the Zimbabwe Youth SDG hosted a virtual celebration together with the Zimpapers Television Network(ZTN) as the broadcast partners.

The UN Resident Coordinator for Zimbabwe Ms Maria Rebeiro who was the guest speaker encouraged the young people to be actively involved in global and economic activities in Zimbabwe and the world. "When I was in Victoria Falls for the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Zimbabwean youth were very much visible there, showcasing the work they are doing and the UN in Zimbabwe continues to support and urge young people to be more active in economic issues, "she said.

The resident coordinator encouraged all stakeholders both public and private to support youth activities in and around the country. She emphasised on the need to promote innovation that solves community problems and challenged the youth to come up with such projects to contribute in ending employment, poverty and hunger.

"As we celebrate UN75 we want to continue engaging and supporting the young people because there are not only important for the future but for now, "she said. The United Nations celebrated 75 years of its establishment since 1945 after the World War 2 and the UN Secretary General Mr Antonnio Guetteres through the UN office seeks the opinions of the young people to shape the future together. United Nations has given priority to listen to the youth voice and engage them in global development and crisis matters that include youth working in fighting climate change witnessed by Greta Thurnberg.

Speaking during the same event, Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare Minister Paul Mavima encouraged the young people to make use of the innovation hubs which the government has put in place.

"We have created innovation hubs which will help in creating innovative ideas from our youth into action and we continue to encourage the young people to make use of these facility that Government has put in place for them, "said Minister Mavima. The Minister noted some of the good work which youth led and focused civic society organizations were doing in complementing government efforts in education, training and humanitarian work across the country and encouraged them to develop their communities. The Minister of Youth, Art, Sports and Recreation Dr Kirsty Coventry delivered the message of the day by applauding the youth of Zimbabwe for being resilient in the difficult times which were worsened by the Covid 19 pandemic. She emphasized the need for unity of purpose in engaging stakeholders that are key in driving the developmental agenda of the nation. She appreciated the support from the UN systems in promoting innovations and awareness programs on social and economic activities across the country.

The Zimbabwe Youth Sustainable Development Goals Executive Director Mr Jasper Mangwana reminded the youth that the global goals are everyone's duty and should be successfully implemented through sustainable partnerships which will include everyone. The youth were implored to be drivers of sustainable development and play their part as the world enters the Decade of Action in the acceleration towards Agenda 2030. Intergenerational engagement and dialogue should be the pillar of programming for our nations to achieve the goals in time as every stakeholder has a key role to play.

International Youth day is celebrated every year on the 12th of August as the world recognises the importance of young people in the global social, economic and political dynamics.

Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation Kirsty Coventry

National Development Strategy 1 in line with the Global Goals. Youth Opportunities in NDS1



Prof. Mthuli Ncube Minister of Finance & Economic Development Prof. Paul Mavhima Minister of Public Service, Labour & Social Welfare

Vision Goals & Targets

- Overall Vision Target: prosperous and empowered upper middle-income society by 2030, with job opportunities and a high quality of life. (With less income disparities)

- GNI per capita of above \$4,000

- Employment rate of more than 80%.

- Reduction in the Poverty Rate, to under 25 percent of the population from 62.5 percent (2012), consistent with upper middle-income economies.

- Increasing the number of households accessing electricity from 52.2 percent in 2017 to over 72% by 2030. Universal Access to improved sources of water, up from 77.3% in 2020 to 90% in 2025.

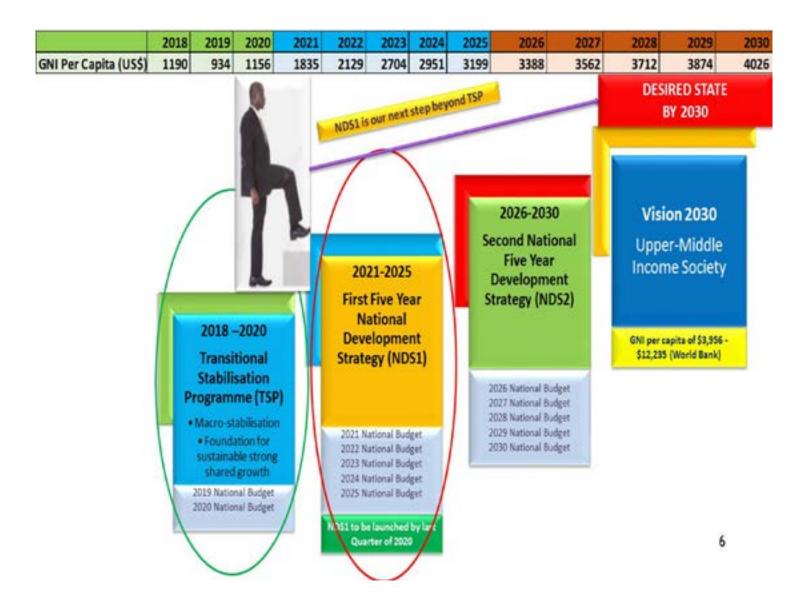
- Average Life Expectancy of over 65 years from 61 years.

- Stable Macro-economic Environment and economic transformation sustained by high productivity levels.

- A fiscal policy framework that allows for realization of budget savings.

- Speeding up the ongoing Ease of Doing Business reforms to reduce the cost of doing business.

- Successful Engagement and Re-Engagement with the international community.



Devolution and Decentralisation

This Thematic area was chaired by Secretary for Local Government and Public Works and the Co-Chair was Secretary for Lands, Agriculture, Water and Rural.

Devolution seeks to make the system of governance community based and people centred by enhancing their participation in making decisions on issues that affect them and in the exercise of the powers of the State whilst upholding the preservation of national unity. Major focus areas include:

- Enhanced democratic participation of people in decision making;
- Improved good governance;
- Improved service delivery;
- Maintain Zimbabwe as a single peaceful state;
- Utilise local competitive and comparative advantages;
- Stimulate economic development;
- Fiscal capacitation of the lower tiers of Government;
- Cohesive policies and legislation for the sector;
- Configure Government structures at lower levels and

- Implement a new culture in the management of public affairs and resources in local government structures.

ZYSDG 2020 Annual Report

By David Zezai

1.0. About Zimbabwe Youth SDG

Zimbabwe Youth SDG (ZYSDG) is a nonprofit making youth led organization that promotes active youth participation on the national, regional and global development programs to attain Agenda 2030 and 2063. (www.zimyouthsdg.org.zw). ZYSDG has engaged young people from the country's 10 provinces in different programs and projects which realized the establishments of ZYSDG community chapters and special interest groups which promote youth engagement at community level. ZYSDG works closely with the United Nations agencies, Civil Society Organizations, tertiary institutions, and government through responsible ministries that drive different SDGs to ensure that it conforms to the policies and regulations by government.

2.0 Key Programs undertaken2.1. 2020 African Regional Forum forSustainable Development

ZYSDG was given a mandate by the government through the Zimbabwe Youth Council (ZYC) to collaborate with other youthled organizations and coordinate 200 young people from across the country to attend the ARFSDG in Victoria Falls. The forum was curtain-raised by a two-day science and technology boot camp which was focusing on robotics, artificial intelligence and business and project management training. The bootcamp was supported by UNESCO and the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation and Technology Development, and young people enjoyed free, transport, accommodation and food during the stay. The United Nations Zimbabwe supported ZYSDG with paraphernalia for advocacy work which include, branded t-shirts, banners and placards for SDGs. The opportunity gave the youths motivation to start up their



companies, CSOs, and to create sustainable partnerships over and above a great opportunity to fully understand the vision 2030 for sustainable development as proclaimed by the United Nations.

2.2. Zimbabwe Youth SDG Side Event

ZYSDG's application to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to host a side event at the African Regional Forum for SDG got a positive feedback. SYSDG hosted a side event and invited the Minister of Youth, Art Sport and Recreation, honorable Kisty Coventry as the guest speaker. Other members on the panel included the UN Zimbabwe Advocacy and Communications Specialist, Mr. Sirak Gebrehiwot, Director for ZYSDG – Mr. Jasper Mangwana, EnvironmentalConsultant,DrDorcasShumba, Director for Elevate Trust, Ms. Cicelo Dube, Chairman of the African Youth SDG Summit secretariate, Mr. Emmanuel Ametepey and Media Practioner, Ms. Hlengiwe Mtetwa. The event was running under the theme "Youth as drivers of global goals in the decade of action", was a success and recorded an attendance of more than 500 people. Young people were challenged to take up roles and responsibilities that drive the sustainable development agenda forward.

3.0. Virtual Programs

Immediately after the Victoria Falls forum for sustainable development, the country was put under a total shut down due to COVID 19 pandemic which hit the whole globe. ZYSDG was left with no option but to confine its activities to online platforms, and it had an opportunity to conduct the belowmentioned programs:

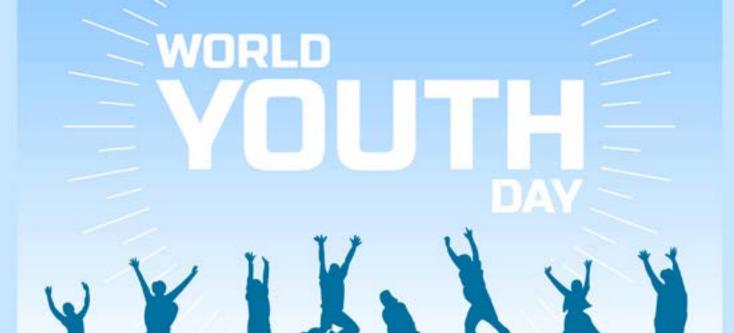
3.1. International Youth Day

the International Youth Day 2020 which was running under the theme: "Youth Engagement for Global Action". The celebration was graced by the Minister of Labor, Public Service and Social Welfare - Professor A Mavima, Minister of Youth, Art, Sports and Recreation - Honorable Kirsty Coventry, UN Resident Coordinator for Zimbabwe -Ms. Maria do Valle Ribeiro (Guest Speaker), UNDP Zimbabwe Resident representative Mr Georges van Montfort, UNFPA Resdent Representative for Zimbabwe Dr. Esther Muia, and the Convener of the African Youth SDG Summit – Mr. Emmanuel Ametepey. The discussion was emphasizing on the ways to engage young people at the local, national and global levels in enriching national and multilateral institutions and processes towards sustainable development. The event was supported by the United Nations Zimbabwe and more than 100 young people attended the virtual meeting across the nation.



3.2 International Day of Peace.

ZYSDG took a challenge to host the ZYSDG hosted the national celebrations for celebrations of the International Dav of Peace. The event which was held on the 21st of September was contacted virtually. ZYSDG invited several partners to join the discussion, and key of them are representatives of the 12 chapter institution as highlighted below; Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) representative Mr. Gavi, Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZAAC) representative - Dr Mugaga, Zimbabwe Youth Council, Business Development Services and Research- Mr. Chisina, Zimbabwe Gender Commission CEO Ms V. Muwanigwa, Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) representatives - Mr. Madziwa and Ms. Tanyaradzwa and the Zimbabwe Media Commission - Mr. Manika. More than 80 young people joined the discussion from across the nation. The discussion was putting a thrust and motivating young people to spearhead peace building initiatives in the country since they are a key constituency of the national population demography.





4.0 Articles

4.1. Blogs and social media

ZYSDG has strengthened its digital marketing strategy by upgrading its website (www. zimyouthsdg.org.zw) and promoting visibility of the organization activities through social media handles; twitter (@Zimyouthsdg) face book (Zimyouthsdg) Instagram (@Zimyouthsdg). It has included an events page https://www.zimyouthsdg.org.zw/events where occurring events and activities are posted. Daily activities and updates are circulated through the social media handles to keep the public aware of what will be occurring.

4.2. First edition magazine

ZYSDG opened a space for young people to write articles across all sectors which culminated in the first edition of the Zimbabwe Youth SDG magazine (https://www.zimyouthsdg.org. zw/events/zysdgmagazine) the project which recorded an overwhelming response from the youth was sponsored by our all-weather friends the United Nations Zimbabwe and other partners from across the country. Key topics in the magazine include; highlights of the 2020 African Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, COVID 19 pandemic, youth involvement in sustainable development, socio-economic issues, science technology and innovation and the UN@75 message. The magazine was shared across all provinces and the distribution process is still underway.

5.0. Partnerships

In line with the United Nations' SDG 17, ZYSDG has considered partnering with various organizations to strengthen its capacity to implement the sustainable development goals across various sectors.

5.1 National Blood Service Zimbabwe

In April ZYSDG worked on a partnership with the National Blood Service Zimbabwe to strengthen the blood donation campaign which was being affected by the COVID 19 guidelines. Traditionally NBSZ relies on school children to sustain its blood supply. However due to COVID 19, all schools were closed so the blood bank was experiencing shortages and this passed a subsequent threat to human lives. It is from this background that the two parties signed a memorandum of understanding and scaled up the blood donation campaign efforts. He massive drive was done through the various social media platforms, and the ZYSDG chapters and special interest groups were also engaged to compliment the commitment in different parts of the country and contribute to the implementation of SDG 3 in Zimbabwe and this again was a successful project.

The partnership was recognized with an award for 2020 by the Institute of Public Relations during an achiever's awards ceremony which was hosted in Harare for the Best Sponsorship/Partnership Award.

5.2. Premium Access - eLearning Solutions

ZYSDG signed a memorandum of understanding with the United Kingdombased Premium Access e-Learning Solution for a scholarship to support 50 young people to undertake a 2 months training course in soft skills. called Premium Access based in the United Kingdom partnered with the ZYSDG for a scholarship program which was meant to train 50 youth from across the country. The program beneficiaries were selected through a transparent mechanism. with a fair consideration on gender, residence and distribution.

A virtual induction was conducted and the students got a chance to learn from guests who came from the International Labor Organization-Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe Youth Council, Premium Access e-Learning Solution and JSI on issues to do with operating green enterprises. The participants were encouraged the to take up the challenge and create employment through digital entrepreneurship mechanisms.

Out of the 50 young people who were selected, 30 were successful in their studies and they were awarded internationally recognized certificates for 10 soft skills for entrepreneurs and also an opportunity to be brand ambassadors for Premium Access e-Learning Solutions in their respective provinces.

5.3. World bank Zimbabwe

ZYSDG got into a partnership with the World Bank Zimbabwe and obtained support to drive its 'Know Your SDG' drive through digital platforms. This ongoing advocacy program aimed at educating the public about the 17 SDGs and their corresponding targets raised the confidence and willingness of young people to participate in SDG-related activities. The World Bank Zimbabwe provided data bundles to more than 200 young people. The data was used to promote easy and frequent access to social media and increasing the visibility of ZYSDG programs and young people on the various digital platforms. Young people had an opportunity to learn various SDG-related stuff and further circulate them.

6.0. Youth SDG Summits6.1. African Youth SDG Summit.

ZYSDG actively participated in the African Youth SDG Summit 2020 which was hosted in Ghana from 4 to 5 November. Participation was made possible through a virtual platform which was opened as many young people could not physically attend due to COVID 19. The summit which was running under the theme "securing the 2030 commitment beyond the post Covid-19 era", was recorded an attendance of over 11 00 youth across the world. ZYSDG was given an opportunity to provide moderators, and panelists. Four young people from Zimbabwe qualified for that challenge, and these are Munashe Mukahlera, Blessing Munatsi, Amanda Chenai Makombe, and Vanessa T Amidu. One of the ZYSDG executive member, David Zezai was elected to participate in a panel discussion under the sub-theme, "Smart Government: Knowledge Management and Efficient Digital Strategies for Managing Growth". ZYSDG was also granted a slot to host a virtual side event which ran under the sub-theme 'Gender equality as a tool to drive sustainable development goals".

6.2. Provincial SDG Summit

ZYSDG rounded up the year with an Annual SDG Summit in the capital of Mashonaland East Province – Marondera. More than 100, young people from all districts managed to attend the summit. The theme of the summit was ZYSDG invited representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Economic development, Ministry of Public Service, labor and Social Welfare, Zimbabwe Ant-Corruption Commission, and Empower Bank, who were also part of the facilitators. Among the participants were also students and lecturers from Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology and which we had scheduled to host provincially in a bid to reach the grassroots and to preach the gospel of SDGs even to the most remote areas of the country. Key points of discussion included; the National Development Strategy 1, Zimbabwe's SDG implementation framework, economic opportunities for youth, and the role of young people in the anti-corruption campaign.

ZYSDG team would like to express its hearty gratitude to all stakeholders and development partners who helped make all these activities possible in the year 2020. It further expressed its hope to 2021 to bring more opportunities for the youth to be active drivers of the Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and Agenda 2063 of the African Union.



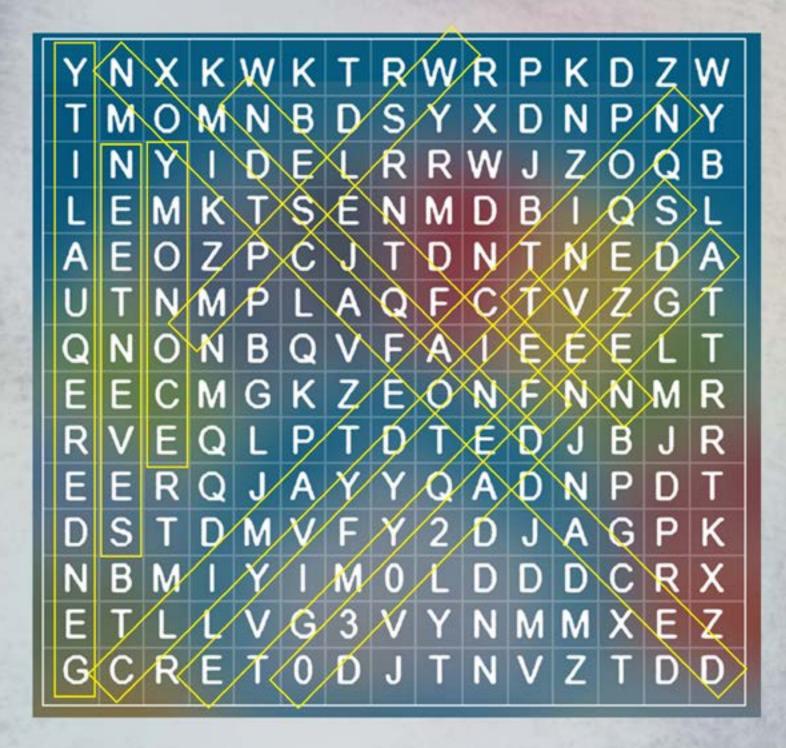
SDG Puzzle

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1. Which SDG focuses on decent work and economic development?

- 2. Spotlight initiative falls under which SDG?
- 3. Who is the current UN Resident Coordinator for Zimbabwe?
- 4. Which organization among the Chapter 12 institutions focuses on peace?
- 5. Which SDG promotes the youth to work together in harmony?
- 6. In which month is the youth day celebrated in Zimbabwe?
- 7. What should we do to stay safe from Covid-19?
- 8. Which is the most important goal among the 17?
- 9. The African SDG forum in 2020 was held in which country?
- 10. What is the predecessor to the SDGs?

ANSWERS TO THE PREVIOUS ZYSDG PUZZLE



Review the questions on page 27 in ZYSDG Magazine volume 1









































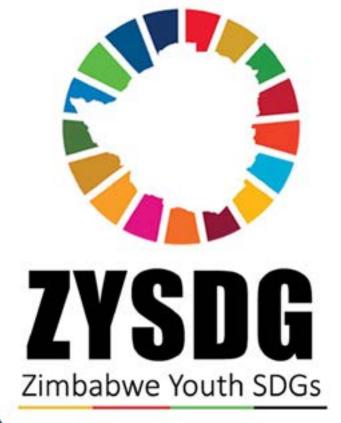








ZYSDG (limaje Climate Change is real, it has affected our social and economic lives. We should take Action New to ensure that we plan with climate change in mind in all our social and economic activities. Young people much be indice in inducting their communities, imagine in climate action activities that include environment water management and their planting inductives. We do not always need increase to protect our environment but rather the knowledge and willingness to make a possive a possive Change. EPisetATree



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8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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