

About ZIMCODD

ZIMCODD is a socio-economic justice coalition preoccupied with the quest for Social and Economic Justice. The Coalition was established in February 2000 to facilitate citizens' involvement in making public policy and practice pro-people and sustainable. Its vision is the attainment of Sustainable socio-economic justice in Zimbabwe through a vibrant people based movement. Its mission in pursuit of this vision is to take action against the Debt burden and Social & Economic Injustices. This will be achieved primarily through:

- Building and mobilizing a vibrant people's movement
- Formulation and promotion of alternative policies to the neoliberal agenda.

Drawing from community-based livelihood experiences of its membership the organization implements programs targeted at:

- *Educating the citizen*
- *Formulation of alternative policies.*
- *Facilitating policy dialogue among stakeholders*
- *Engaging and acting on socio-economic governance at local, regional and global levels.*

Its specific objectives are:

- *To raise the level of economic literacy among ZIMCODD members to include views and participation of grassroots and marginalized communities;*
- *To facilitate research, lobbying and advocacy in order to raise the level of economic literacy on issues of debt, trade and sustainable development;*
- *To formulate credible and sustainable economic and social policy alternatives;*
- *To develop a national coalition, and facilitate the building of a vibrant movement for social and economic justice.*

ZIMCODD represents a broad cross section of citizens groups. Membership is currently based on the coalition model, bringing together various institutions and individuals to collectively implement its mission and objectives. The thematic groups that the organization works with range from faith based organizations, students, residents, labour, women groups, people with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS and small scale farmers. These members share the organization's goals, and together they constitute the Annual General Meeting (AGM). One key element of the ZIMCODD activities is the Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors, SEJA's. These are activists drawn from various thematic groups within the coalition who play a leading role in the delivery of programs.

ZIMCODD's headquarters are in Harare with a regional office in Bulawayo. The headquarters and regional office are responsible for coordinating regional activities in the rest of the country and the country is divided into Northern and Southern regions. To achieve its objectives, ZIMCODD employs a number of strategies and tactics which feed into and from each other.

ZIMCODD is the host of the Zimbabwe Social Forum (ZSF), a platform where social movement s come together to share experiences and to strategise on challenges they face in their different sectors. ZIMCODD is a member and focal point of the Southern African peoples Solidarity Network (SAPSN), Zimbabwe Network Against Illicit Financial Flows (ZINAIF), Jubilee South, Publish What You Pay Campaign and the Tax Justice Network.

List of Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AU	African Union
BIG	Basic Income Grant
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
SADC	Southern Africa Development Cooperation
HLP	High Level Panel
IFF	Illicit Financial Flows
MDG's	Millennium Development Goals
MNC's	Multinational Companies
PPP's	Public Private Partnerships
PWYP	Publish What You Pay
SAPSN	Southern African People's Solidarity Network
SEJA's	Social and Economic Justice Ambassadors
SPII	Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute
UN	United Nations
UNRA	United Nations Relief Agency
ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development
ZINAIF	Zimbabwe Network Against Illicit Financial Flows
ZSF	Zimbabwe Social Forum

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1. Introduction

The Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) hosted the 2015 Regional Tertiary Institutions Debates & Public Speaking Gala during the 2015 SADC People's Summit, which was held from 15 - 16 August at Big Five Lodge in Gaborone Botswana. The event created platforms for young voices to be heard in the natural resources governance discourse in line with the SADC People's Summit 2015 theme "Reclaiming SADC for People's Development: SADC Resources for SADC People". Debating teams were drawn from Lesotho, Botswana, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Swaziland. The main goal of the activity was to mobilize and create a pool of SADC youths to steer and deliberate on challenges at SADC level and influence SADC Heads of State Summit Agenda towards adopting sustainable and inclusive natural resource management approach.

A total of 69 participants¹ registered for the gala during the Debates and the public speaking Gala.



Maxuso Sphelele from Swaziland

¹ See List of Participants attached, the number is also lower than the actual number of people who participated since this was an open forum where people could come in from other autonomous sessions.

2. Background to the Regional SADC People Summit Debates

SADC has a large young people population, 76% of its population consists those under the age of 35 years. Southern Africa and Africa at large has the largest youth population in the world, 200 million people aged between 15 and 24. It is expected that the number of young people in Africa will double by 2045. These youths are faced with a myriad of challenges amongst them; unemployment, limited access to education and skills for entrepreneurship and employability, poor health and HIV and AIDS. Poverty and inequality among the youth are very high and pose a threat to national and regional development, peace and security. This has resulted in despondency, despair and deviancy among many young people. These challenges are faced despite the SADC governments' commitments to finance youth employment Action Plans and achieve the 2% annual reduction in youth unemployment by 2018. The youths at regional level are not coordinated and efforts are more often done in isolation at national levels.

To address the problem of poverty and inequality the SADC region should harness the proceeds from natural resources to effectively and progressively deal with the challenges faced by the youths. SADC has vast natural resources that include oil, gold, diamonds, cocoa, land, fisheries and timber among others, which if used properly will lift the youths and the general citizens of the SADC from the echelons of poverty. However, Southern Africa continues to lose a lot of potential revenue through illicit financial flows and natural resources governance by the ruling elites within the region. Multinational companies benefit immensely from natural resources as most of the value and money is siphoned outside thereby deepening Africa's poverty. The operations of Multinational Companies (MNCs) directly affect the welfare of both workers and communities who often lose land, food security, become exposed to health hazards of water and air pollution, and outbreak of diseases such as cancer, tuberculosis, asthma, cholera and typhoid.

There is need to strengthen advocacy mechanisms around natural resources governance at sub-regional level to address the ever increasing challenges faced by citizens and governments yet the region is resource rich.

At national level, ZIMCODD has used debates on policy issue to build a youth movement that can hold duty bearers accountable since 2011. The youths today are immensely affected by policies crafted by duty bearers, hence their participation is crucial. Natural resources are not infinite therefore there is need for leaders to manage them with future generations in mind. Through the debates, students have been making demands on effective natural resource governance for citizens' benefit and the enjoyment of social and economic rights. ZIMCODD believes the youths have a stake in natural resources governance and the building of a social movement targeted at them is paramount for national and regional development. ZIMCODD realised the need to harness young people's voices and tap into their new and innovative strengths to fill in the developmental gaps. Young people are a pool of activists who are very efficient and energetic in information dissemination that can be harnessed to question and contribute towards advocating for accountability, transparency in natural resources management for social and economic justice.

Using this experience gathered on mobilising the students and the youths to effectively participate in influencing policy changes for social and economic development, ZIMCODD organised the Regional Tertiary Institution Debate and Public Speaking Gala where tertiary institutions students from the region participated at the SADC Summit. The outcomes of the debates were incorporated into the 2015 SADC Summit communiqué. The outcomes will also be shared with mining companies and responsible government Ministries.



The gallery during the Tertiary Debates and Public Speaking Gala

3. Format of the Debates

The debates format was designed as an interactive platform including;

- Debate sessions between the two teams on the given topics.
- Plenary for the audience to interact and engage with the debaters on issues raised during the debate session.
- Responses from experts on topics to share knowledge on the debate topics

This process allowed the critical engagements that should be embedded in the day to day formulation of policies within the region. It allowed participants' voices to be heard and incorporated into the final deliberations for input to the communiqué. The plenary session also allowed the gallery to contribute in the debates giving practical experiences from work being done.

4. Summary of the Debate Proceedings/ Topics

The 2015 SADC Peoples Debates and Public Speaking Gala were structured as follows;

Countries & Debating Topics	Responses	
<p>Zambia vs. Malawi</p> <p>This house shall introduce a universal SADC Basic Income Grant as the permanent solution to address high levels of poverty in the Region</p>	<p>Affirmative/Government points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The BIG is a noble idea and there is need for a parliamentary supported endorsement (legal framework) for the B.I.G at Regional level. > According to research and country reports there are enough natural resources to finance the B.I.G Initiative. > B.I.G has a positive impact in trying to narrow down the poor-rich gap, as reviewed in the Malawi and Namibia case studies. > Due to the seriousness of the need for social security measures in the region there is no need to consider a strong stable economy first before considering B.I.G, rather when having B.I.G rolled out, the governments will be mandated to craft and implement policies that are people-centred.  <p><i>Zambia team</i></p>	<p>Non-Affirmative/ Opposition</p>  <p><i>Malawi team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The BIG is an elitist programme that does not positively discriminate between the rich and the poor. > The SADC region has resources but has no capacity to extract them and add value hence can't base B.I.G on natural resources that cannot be fully tapped. > There is a major drawback on capacities by the countries to harness the funds for the success of the B.I.G. > The failure of the sovereign wealth fund in certain countries such as Swaziland is a good example of failures in cooperate socio-economic policies on poverty. > There is no agreement on how much is the basic grant, how it will be allocated and distributed; either to individuals or households.

Overall points from the topic: The major challenges that can hinder B.I.G are corruption, mismanagement of state resources, and lack of alignment between laws and constitutions and government willingness to support, promote and uphold socio-economic rights.

There is need to popularise the BIG so that the marginalised who are the greatest beneficiaries can have adequate understanding of the initiative and have ownership of the campaign.

Countries & Debating Topics	Responses	
<p>Zimbabwe vs. Lesotho</p> <p>This house believes that the SADC leaders are not doing enough to plug illicit flows in the extractive sector</p>	<p>Affirmative/Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > There has been no commitment to plug the IFFs in the region-since the passage of the SADC Protocol, more corrupt and shady deals such as the granting of tax holidays are on the rise in the region as countries compete for foreign direct investments. > There has not been any ratification of mining treaties to show commitment to plug the holes promoting IFFs. > Most Mining laws in countries in the region are old, outdated and neo-liberal in nature, dating back to the colonial era e.g. Zimbabwe Mines and Minerals Act of 1961.  <p><i>Zimbabwe Team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > These legal frameworks, have many loopholes and are backed by weak tax systems, encouraging or rather promoting illicit flows. > There is evidence that power hungry political elites, are milking the extractive sector to finance their campaigns and to prolong their stay in power. Some have gone as far as awarding their companies tenders. > SADC leaders are hostile to the concept of financing B.I.G through the extractive sector proceeds. It is so mainly because of lack of transparency and accountability in the conduct of business in this sector. 	<p>Non-Affirmative/Opposition</p>  <p><i>Lesotho Team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The SADC leadership is making efforts to plug the IFFs from the region-the production of illicit flows reports, the latest in 2014, is an indication to the work being done by SADC leaders. > The Publish what you pay (PWYP), campaign, EITI agreements are some of the many other strategies being implemented to plug illicit flows. > Nearly 45% of mineral output is coming from Small Scale Miners (SSM), who are taxed and governed by different extractive legal framework. > The introduction of monitoring and evaluation programmes in the extractive sector is also an indication of the efforts by government to address the rampant problem of IFFs. > Public Private Partnership in the extractive sector, which are supported by commissions and governed by parastatals, are also other efforts SADC leaders are making efforts to plug illicit flows. > The introduction of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to major players in the sector, has been the other ways to plug illicit flows and ensure that communities benefit from the extractive sector.



Overall view points from the topic: Lack of transparency and accountability in the sector has facilitated IFFs. The SADC ruling elites and MNCs involved are not committing themselves to frameworks that ensure that IFFs are plugged. Despite researches and recommendations being put forward by stakeholders, the SADC leadership has not taken the initiative to implement recommendations that could curb IFFs.

There is no coordination at Regional level to enhance capacities to collect taxes from MNCs.

Countries & Debating Topics	Responses	
<p>Swaziland vs. Botswana</p> <p>This house believes that a lot of companies in the SADC region are looting natural resources and evading taxes</p>	<p>Affirmative/Government</p>  <p><i>Swaziland Team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The interest by MNCs in the extractive sector and the rapid increase in mining activities in the region is reason enough to show that there is looting of resources. > CSR schemes have been used to evade tax while looting resources. > The Public Private Partnerships have been used to loot resources without meaningful engagement of the local communities. > Lack of a regional data base to quantify natural resources facilitates looting of natural resources. > Also due to exporting raw mineral and lack of value addition capacity to fully process these minerals, low value minerals are being looted out of the region, without full market value realization thereby, cutting down export taxes that governments could realise. > The awarding of tax holidays to MNCs is a clear act of allowing them to evade tax and loot resources. > The MNC do not use local banks preferring tax havens where they stash their loot from the region's resources. 	<p>Non-Affirmative/Opposition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Through Public Private Partnership agreements in the extractive sector, governments are now involved in the extractive sector to curb the looting of resources. PPPs give governments an upper hand in checking and monitoring the processes. > Some governments and multi-national companies have solid agreements which are rooted on the concept of local development programmes and local employment or Corporate Social Responsibility. > In Botswana commissions and parastatals have been established to monitor the activities on companies in the mining sector. Revenue authorities in member countries play a critical role to ensure that resources are not looted.  <p><i>Botswana Team</i></p>

Overall view points to the topic: The discovery of minerals like, diamonds in Zimbabwe and natural gas in Mozambique and in Angola has not helped in addressing socio-economic challenges but rather increases politically motivated disuniting in the region. Proceeds from minerals have failed to translate into pragmatic citizens' benefit whilst the MNC's report huge profits in their countries of origin show that there is looting in the sector.

The High Level Panel Report on Illicit Financial Flows of 2014 point to the massive "looting of natural resources by MNCs possibly with the corroboration of the ruling elites in the region.

Countries & Debating Topics	Responses	
<p>Swaziland vs. Lesotho</p> <p>This house believes that SADC countries have no reason to borrow or seek aid amidst the abundance of natural resources.</p>	<p>Affirmative/Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The continued scramble for Africa in the 21 century by the Asian and Western giants is a clear indication that there is abundance of resources in the region, hence no need to borrow or seek for aid. > The debt and aid offered by international funding institutions like the World Bank and IMF, have conditions such as Structural Adjustment Programmes, the IMF staff monitored programme among others undermine human development. > To harness enough resources there is need to Nationalize some natural resources for the financing of development. > The funds received as aid in Africa are of lesser value. Africa loses more than double the aid inflows through IFFS and unfair trade practices. This shows that the region can do without aid and external debt.  <p><i>Swaziland Team</i></p>	<p>Non-Affirmative/Opposition</p>  <p><i>Lesotho Team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Due to lack of development patterns and lack of stable economic growth in the region, there is still need for SADC to lobby for/seek aid. > The region lacks enough capacity to sustain its own development. Other sectors of the economy in the region are in limbo, failing dismally for example the agriculture sector hence such sectors need funding from donors. > The “Conditional Aid”, is necessary, the conditions are meant to address the social and economic challenges of the recipient country. > The engagements into Public Private Partnerships brings about participatory aid where the local recipients have a stake in development. > Productive aid and debt is required to build capacities to enhance value addition.

Overall view to the topic: The natural resources in the region can finance countries’ own national developments, the challenges of mismanagement of funds and state resources, hyper corruption and unstable political economy in the region have caused the continuous aid dependency which is unsustainable.

SADC leadership should seriously focus on domestic resource mobilisation to finance own development including the funding of the regional bloc as an independent institution.

Countries & Debating Topics	Responses	
<p>Malawi vs. Botswana</p> <p>This house shall introduce a social and economic rights barometer for all SADC countries</p>	<p>Affirmative/ Government</p>  <p><i>Malawi Team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The barometer is necessary and will assist in outlining a universal way of conduct, with regard to social and economic rights in the region. > It will also map out a general regional framework in dealing with other foreign citizens in member countries. It will resonate with the solidarity nature of the SADC since its formation. No country will be left out leaving other citizens in poverty. > The barometer is meant to be a regulatory standard in the region, which aims at upholding a common basic standard of living. > This barometer can be used in advocating for the establishment and realisation of universal social and economic rights in the region. 	<p>Non-Affirmative/ Opposition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > There is no need to apply a uniform framework for countries that are at different levels of development. The failure of the UN MDG's should be an example to SADC countries. It is not feasible to have a blanket barometer. > Cultural and religious differences within SADC countries should be respected with regards to the implementation of the SER barometer. > Some member countries may not have the capacity to implement the barometer making it difficult to monitor.  <p><i>Botswana Team</i></p>

Overall view to the topic: The failure of the MDG's should not rule out the necessity of having a social and economic rights barometer, basic and fundamental human development needs can be standardised. The success of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 should inform SADC countries on how they can formulate their own barometer. Having a universal regional social and economic rights barometer will facilitate development that is people centred across the board.

5. Overview of Issues Raised in the Debates

The tertiary students and the audience had varied arguments on the utilisation of resources for youth-development. The debaters emphasised the need to reclaim resources for the benefit of the people. It was highlighted that people of the region have the right to resources. The continent is exporting its natural resources especially minerals in raw form cheaply to other continents, and re-importing finished products at high cost. The debaters noted this worrying trend and challenged SADC leaders that it is time to industrialise and value add on the raw materials. It is time to harness domestic resources and use them to finance the development of SADC countries.

Debaters alluded to the fact that Africa is rich in natural resources that are exported worldwide and as such proving that Africa can fulfil basic social standards. Colluding factors such as corruption, mismanagement of state resources, illicit flows and looting of natural resources and evading of taxes have contributed to the lack realisation of basic social and economic rights. The debates managed to highlight important issues such as the need for SADC states to be accountable and transparent in natural resources management.

Recommendations raised include the need for policy and laws review so that contracts entered between governments and investors offer greater and meaningful community benefit hence initiatives such as provision of a Basic Income Grant for citizens are laudable alternatives. The case study of Malawi was highlighted where 23,000 families are receiving a basic income grant and remarkable improvements have been noted in terms of access to basic social services through secure food security, education and health.

SADC leaders were challenged to consider managing the Illicit Financial Flows and fight against tax injustices by implementing recommendations from the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows

of 2014 which was adopted by African Union General Assembly in 2014. It was stated that most nations are losing out to foreign and multinational investors who are fraudulently robbing developing nations in SADC of their prevailing wealth through various means which include transfer pricing. SADC governments were urged to review the legal framework and tax holidays that are given to multinational companies with a strong recommendation that all multinational companies should declare their profits in respective countries of operation than current situation where they declare in their countries of origin which encourages transfer pricing tendencies.

The audience called on the SADC leaders to move towards establishing a regional body to oversee the issues of the extractives and taxation in order to curb Illicit Financial Flows. Through the debates, it was noted that that SADC countries are being ripped off by foreign investors who are taking advantage of existing weak legal frameworks to siphon resources out of the region.

The debaters and the audience called upon SADC heads of state and governments to stop heavily relying on aid and external debt as these are unreliable, unsustainable and come with conditions that do more harm to the citizens than good for example the case of SAP and NEPAD programmes. Efforts should be increased for domestic resource mobilisation, which is a more powerful and sustainable way of financing local development.

After deliberations, the participants made recommendations for the 2015 SADC People's Summit Communique as follows;

- We Demand SADC to roll out comprehensive Social Protection Mechanism and Make Income Security for All a Priority by Introducing a Universal Basic Income Grant
- We Demand SADC countries to implement the Recommendations of the HLP led by Thabo Mbeki (AU/UNRA) Report on Illicit Financial Outflows from Africa they adopted in January 2014

- We Demand SADC to trace, Stop and take back revenue from Illicit Financial Flows. This revenue should be channeled to finance social protection programmes at national level.

6. Experts Responses to Debate Topics

6.1 The SADC Basic Income Grant Campaign Strategy - Taku Fundira - SPII

Mr. Fundira from SPII, an organisation campaigning for the adoption and implementation of the universal SADC Basic Income Grant commended the students for the research on the debating topics. He highlighted that Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states are characterised by high levels of poverty and some of the highest levels of inequality globally, albeit endowed with high levels of mineral and other natural resources (extractives). He stated that it was against this background that the SADC Basic Income Grant (BIG) Coalition is calling for the introduction of a SADC - wide universal cash transfer in the form of a Basic Income Grant (BIG) that will be predominantly funded by a tax on extractives and also other funding options.

Fundira stated that the scheme is based on the notion of economic justice that promotes broadening access to proceeds of such natural resources exploitations activities beyond the current narrow circle of national and international beneficiaries and shareholders of the mining to each and every resident of the SADC sub-region. Furthermore, the rationale behind this campaign is to call for the broadening of social welfare schemes that already exist in most SADC member states through the SADC BIG as current programs exclude a majority of young unemployed people and unemployed working age population.

He noted that the universal scheme would also ensure transparency and greater even-handedness on the distribution of resources,

reducing the risk of capture by politicians to win political support for their own gain. It would promote solidarity, and contribute to the regional integration and movement of people, and of social and economic policies as is provided for in SADC Treaties and Protocols.

He highlighted that the Basic Income Grant would provide rapid and sustained relief to all SADC citizens by:

- providing everyone with a minimum level of income;
- enabling the nation's poorest households to meet their basic needs;
- stimulating equitable economic development;
- promoting family and community stability; and
- Affirming and supporting the inherent dignity of all.



Taku Fundira of SPII

He further stated that Governments have consistently put forth the argument of insufficient funds available to fund some of the social protection programs, despite the fact that the region is endowed with mineral and energy resources. He cited that in South Africa the, government has argued that “it cannot afford to indefinitely pay social grants to people who are not elderly and who have no physical challenges.” The common argument against increased

roll-out of social protection programs has been the low-tax base relative to the total demographics in these countries

He highlighted to the participants that the SADC BIG Coalition shares a common vision to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality in SADC. Key to the achievement of this vision is the need for a universal SADC BIG which is accessed by all SADC residents; further to ensure that residents share in the natural resources of the region.

6.2 Linking Tax Justice to Natural Resources Governance - Cephass Makunike Tax Justice Network

The presentation highlighted that tax justice calls for progressive and pro-poor tax systems which discourage harmful tax competition and promote domestic revenue mobilisation and also address inequality. He stated that tax Justice has to do with 5 Rs which are;

- **Raise Revenue:** tax is prominently recognised as the most reliable and sustainable source of domestic revenue mobilisation. As supported by the Outcome document of the Financing for Development 3 Conference held in Addis, Ethiopia in July 2015. Debt, Aid and private finance are no longer reliable since the global financial crisis of 2011;
- **Redistribute income and wealth:** where the rich are taxed and the revenue is used to finance development which the poor can also access and enjoy.
- **Raise representation** within the democratic process because it has been found that only when an electorate and government are bound by the common interest of tax does democratic accountability really work;
- **Reprice** goods and services considered to be incorrectly priced by the market such as tobacco, alcohol, carbon emissions, etc.
- **Reorganisation** of the economy through fiscal policy.

Tax related aspects of Natural Resources:

Mr Makunike stated that the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) essentially seeks to use Africa's natural resources sector to transform the continent's social and economic development path. He highlighted two focus areas, which are directly linked to tax which are *the fiscal regime and revenue management* focus as well as the *extractive sector governance*. He stated that the expected outcome of the extractives fiscal policy regime is optimization of the share of mineral revenue accruing to resource-rich economies whilst the expected outcome of revenue management is improved management and use of mineral revenue. He cited an example of a country's revenue use and management, which provides reasonable safeguards for sharing the benefits from resource revenues with future generation and funding the provision of physical infrastructure, such as improvements in education and health and social amenities (water, sanitation among others) that daily affect the lives of all citizens) rather than recurrent expenditure).

He further highlighted that the expected outcome of the mining sector governance focus area is promoting transparency and accountability as well as consultative processes with stakeholders among other issues.

Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs): Statistics from the High Level Panel (HLP) report and *Global Financial Integrity (GFI)*

He concluded by highlighting the statistics from the HLP report and the GFI as follows;

- There is overwhelming evidence of IFFs from Africa and globally e.g. Report of the HLP on IFF from Africa says that, annually, over \$50 billion is being lost from Africa through IFFs². The Global Financial Integrity (GFI) estimates that, "For each \$1 developing nations receive in foreign aid, \$10 in illicit money flows abroad – facilitated by secrecy in the global financial system".

² The HLP (Mbeki) report was adopted by the AU Heads of state in Addis, Ethiopia in January 2015 and the Heads of state agreed to implement the recommendations of the report in their countries. The report was commissioned by the Africa Union (AU) and Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

- The HLP report identifies the natural resources sector as one of the sectors where IFFs are rampant.
- IFFs negatively impact on domestic revenue mobilisation efforts.

7. Overall Observations and Conclusions from the Regional Debates

The inaugural regional debates at the SADC People Summit were a learning process for SAPSN and the region. There was enthusiasm and research informed participation by students in the debates which shows that the youths are eager and can contribute to the regional development discussions. The debates gave the participants the opportunity to research and reflect on the opportunities that can be unlocked by resources in the region.

The youth themselves are a resource that should be harnessed for sustained political, social and economic development in the region. The debates made it evident that when the youths are given an opportunity and are mobilized based on specific issues, they do have the energy to champion people centred development starting in their countries through to the SADC level.

In terms of participation and the quality of debates, ZIMCOPP noted that there is a gap in some member countries in building the youth initiative for these policy dialoguing initiatives. There is need to build the national debating culture and capacities at national levels to enhance critical engagements debating and critical, policy analysis and thinking at the regional level.

The interactive nature of the debates depicted the way policy formulation should be done. Not only policy makers should debate and decide on developmental agendas, the people themselves should take part in the processes and their voices should be taken

seriously. This was the format which was used for the debates using the experience ZIMCODD has gained through organizing at national level. The debaters debated (on policy formulation they would be the policy makers) and the audience made inputs and demands (these would be the citizens in a policy making set up).

To maintain the process and not make the debates only an event at the SADC People Summit, ZIMCODD will make follow ups with the SAPSN focal points in the participating countries to ensure that the youths continue to be engaged and the debating culture is sown in all the countries. This will contribute to the social movement building rooted in national process and influencing the regional processes.

8. Winning Teams

The winners for the debates were Botswana, Zimbabwe was the first runner up and Zambia was the second runner up.



The winners for the Tertiary Institutions Debates

The public speaking winners were Zimbabwe in the first place; Zambia in the second and Swaziland was third.

Annexes

Programme for the debates

TIME	ACTIVITY & PRESENTER	
	Welcome and Introductory Remarks <i>Joy Mabenge - ZIMCODD Chair</i>	
	Countries	Debate Topic
	Zambia vs. Malawi	This house shall introduce a universal SADC Basic Income Grant as the permanent solution to address high levels of poverty in the Region
	Zimbabwe vs. Lesotho	This House believes that the SADC leaders are not doing enough to plug illicit flows in the extractive sector
	Swaziland vs. Botswana	This House believes that a lot of companies in the SADC Region are looting natural resources and evading taxes
	Zimbabwe vs. Zambia	This House believes that the SADC is state-centric
	Malawi vs. Botswana	This House shall introduce a social and economic rights barometer for all SADC countries
	Swaziland vs. Lesotho	This House believes that the SADC countries have no reason to borrow or seek aid amidst the abundance of natural resources
Public Speaking	This house believes that there are, at present, no desirable investors in Southern Africa. - All Countries	
	Feedback Response to the Issues Raised in the Debates	
	The SADC Basic Income Grant Campaign Strategy Taku Fundira - SPII	
	Linking Tax Justice to Natural Resources Governance - Cephas Makunike Tax Justice Network	

List of Debaters

SURNAME	NAME	SEX	University	POSITION	Country
Ndlovu	Chelesani	F	MSU	Student	Zimbabwe
Dube	Nqobile	M	UZ	Student	Zimbabwe
Matsietsa	Tsepang	M	LYCS	Student	Lesotho
Mojaki	Moqalane	M	LCN	Student	Lesotho
Jolex	Aubrey	M	UNIMA	Student	Malawi
Ndlovu	Luther	M	LSU	Alumni Society	Zimbabwe
Chikumba	Martin	M	LUANAR	Student	Malawi
Makhala	Charity	F	UBOTS	Student	Botswana
Lobelo	Sefalana	F	UBOTS	Student	Botswana
Phiri	Brian	M	MNCRD	Student	Zambia
Simukoko	Njava	M	MNCRD	Student	Zambia
Khumalo	Sanele	M	SNUS	Student	Swaziland
Mlophe	Melusi	M	SNUS	Student	Swaziland
Maxuso	Sphelele	F	SNUS	Student	Swaziland

List of Participants

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Soko	Edgar	M	CBTA	Zimbabwe
Mbulawa	Nenguba	M	BOISA	Botswana
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Matsietsa	Tsepang	M	LYCS	Lesotho
Kofa	Gorden	M	ZCIEA	Zimbabwe
Muchada	Carter	M	ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe
Makunike	Cephas	M	TJN-A	Kenya
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Ziyera	Enndy	M	ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe
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Aaron	Sammy	M	Action Hope-Malawi	Malawi
Chikumba	Martin	M	MEJN	Malawi
Chavula	Chrispen	M	MEJN	Malawi
Madzonga	Darlington	M	ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe
Gershom	K	M	ACEMS/ZAMSOF	Zambia
Fundira	Taku	M	SPII	South Africa
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Grace	Kaseke	F	ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe
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Nhachofe	Rosalcia	F	NNFU	Mozambique
Chagonda	Nyasha	F	Savanna Trust	Zimbabwe
Sibanda	Pauline	F	DAZ	Zimbabwe
Matasu	Yvonne	F	ZCIEA	Zimbabwe
Muzanechita	Mildret	F	ZIMRIGHTS	Zimbabwe
Mhlanga	Elizaberth	F	ZCIEA	Zimbabwe
Pule	Kgomotso	F	Basadi	South Africa
Muziri	Mara	F	FACT-Chiredzi	Zimbabwe
Zonke	Kessia	F	FACT-Chiredzi	Zimbabwe
Mukasa	Debra	F	ZICEA	Zimbabwe
Maninga	Nancy	F	FACT-Chiredzi	Zimbabwe
Phiri	Amanda	F	CSL	Zimbabwe
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Chikwanha	Tariro	F	ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe
Mwanza	Regina	F	NGOCC	Botswana
Kabinga	Jennipher	F	ZAMSOFF	Zambia
Maxuso	Sphelele	F	SNUS	South Africa
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Ndlovu	Portia	F	ZIMCODD	Zimbabwe
Chidaushe	Moreblessings	F	NCA	South Africa
Zakeyo	Marlone	M	SAT	South Africa
Bheki	Moyo	M	SAT	South Africa
Malcom	Damon	M	EJN	South Africa
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