



**Government of Zimbabwe
Ministry of Environment, Climate and Wildlife**

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**Initiative for Climate Action Transparency Project in Zimbabwe
Phase II**

**Scoping Report on the Status of Adaptation Transparency in
Zimbabwe**

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PREPARED UNDER

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INTRODUCTION

Transparency is a major requirement in the implementation of globally agreed measures to combat climate change under the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2015 Paris Agreement. All Parties, including Zimbabwe, are guided by the provisions established under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement in terms of reporting climate change action and progress made towards meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Agreement.

As part of the reporting requirements, Zimbabwe is expected to provide adequate information on Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (VIA) to climate change in its National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Transparency (BTRs). The Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) for the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement (annex to decision 18/CMA.1) are further elaborated in Decision 5/CMA.3 which provides a detailed overview of items to be covered in the VIA chapter of the BTR and NC. Parties are required to report on progress on implementation of adaptation as well as monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions and processes. Parties further required to report on effectiveness of adaptation actions and demonstrate alignment of adaptation actions with national and subnational policies; the results of adaptation actions as well as sustainability of such results.

For Zimbabwe, the most comprehensive national document on climate change adaptation is the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAP). A key component of the Zimbabwe's NAP is the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system, whose objective is to track progress achieved in the implementation of adaptation actions, as well as evaluate the effectiveness of such actions. The NAP MEF tracks progress on achievement of outputs and outcomes, ensuring a systematic approach to monitoring adaptation progress over time.

OBJECTIVES OF THE REPORT

The objective of this report is to provide a clear understanding of the current status of adaptation reporting in Zimbabwe, institutions involves as well as planned improvements.

STATUS OF ADAPTATION TRANSPARENCY IN ZIMBABWE

National Communications and Biennial Transparency Reports

Zimbabwe has a long consistent track record of reporting adaptation actions dating back to the submission of its Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC in 1998. Unlike reporting of GHG emissions which has been invested in and has well

developed globally accepted methodologies and matrices, adaptation measurement and reporting has remained behind and is largely left to the Party to decide on using minimum guidance provided by the Conference of Parties in its decisions.

The Second National Communication submitted in 2012 gave more prominence to vulnerability and adaptation by providing a dedicated chapter on the subject matter and provided the first comprehensive national level overview. The Third and Fourth National Communication submitted in 2017 and 2022 brought about further improvements in reporting climate change adaptation with the two reports providing in-depth vulnerability, impacts and adaptation data and information for Chiredzi and Muzarabani Districts. This is meant to make the National Communications Reports more useful for development planning and climate change mainstreaming in the focus districts.

Zimbabwe submitted its First Biennial Transparency Report and Fifth National Communication Report to the UNFCCC on 31 December 2024 including the chapter on Information Related to Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement. The report provides an overview of impacts and adaptation actions and provides an in-depth analysis of Tsholotsho district in Matabeleland North Province. Further information is provided in terms of tracking adaptation actions in the Nationally Determined Contributions. As in the case of previous National Communications reports, the data that was relied upon is largely secondary data gathered through publications and primary data largely limited to the focus district. The highly qualitative nature of the data makes it difficult to assess whether Zimbabwe is making progress through in adapting to the impact of climate change.

Initial Adaptation Communication

Zimbabwe's Initial Adaptation Communication (AdCom) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was submitted in 2022 and outlines the country's progress in implementing adaptation programs and highlights the barriers, experiences and actions still in need of support. The AdCom aims to increase the visibility and profile of adaptation, balancing it with mitigation efforts. The AdCom points to the NAP as the main adaptation document which will include refined actions and priority projects. It further calls for the inclusion of Vulnerable Groups in adaptation efforts involving various actors, including government ministries, development partners, the private sector, civil society, and households, with a focus on including women, youths, and other vulnerable groups.

2021 Revised Nationally Determined Contributions

Although the Nationally Determined Contributions documents are not reporting documents, they outline priority mitigation and adaptation actions that a Party

commits to implementing over a given period of time. Zimbabwe's 2021 Revised NDC contains adaptation actions related to climate smart agriculture solutions and strengthen agricultural value chains and markets; enhancing early warning and climate-related disaster risk reduction systems; ensuring climate resilient infrastructure designs and development; and promoting resilient and sustainable water resources management. The NDC does not elaborate on the transparency arrangements for the prioritised adaptation measures and instead leaves it to NAP.

The 2021 Revised NDC notes that gender will be mainstreamed throughout the implementation of all adaptation measures. This will ensure that gender-biases are prevented when planning for their implementation, and that the measures can also directly target gender inequality as an important factor of vulnerability to climate change. Similarly, the measures will also consider the role of the youth as a way to provide opportunities for employment and skills development, and to ensure that youth perspectives are represented when planning for implementation.

National Adaptation Plan

In line with the UNFCCC Cancun Adaptation Framework, Zimbabwe's NAP is meant to be a continuous, progressive and iterative process that follows a country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent approach. The NAP is an ideal vehicle to nest the adaptation transparency framework because it provides a broad outline of priority adaptation actions and is periodically reviewed or updated to reflect country circumstances and the changing socio-economic context.

The NAP has 7 sector-based actions covering agriculture, water, forestry and biodiversity, tourism, health, human settlements and infrastructure. These will be measured through 57 indicators. The NAP M&E framework further proposes templates to be used by the Climate Change Management Department in data collection, review and consolidation of reports. NAP implementation will be monitored yearly and reviewed biennially.

To enhance transparency arrangements, the National Adaptation Planning process provided for the creation an information portal and a centralised server. This system can be adapted to cater for the digitisation on climate change adaptation reporting and tracking of progress making the analysis of country wide data simplified.

Climate Finance Reporting

In 2024 the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment Promotion has completed the development of the Development Project Management Information System (DevPROMIS). The system includes a component of climate finance tracking from all development projects and can differentiate between adaptation, mitigation and cross-cutting climate finance. Capacity development in the

use of the system and refinement of its architecture is currently ongoing. The next phases in the development of the system will include private sector finance. The implementation of the climate finance tracking component of DevPROMIS is expected to enhance climate adaptation transparency arrangements at the national level.

Current Sectoral Reporting

Climate change adaptation needs, and actions are locally defined and therefore, the information should flow from the lowest administrative structures to a centralised point for synthesis. There currently exists no centralised reporting structure related to climate change adaptation. The closest arrangement is the current development planning process which requires all sectors to be coordinated by the District Development Coordinator and to provide the necessary information required to craft the district development plan and to monitor progress in the implementation of the plan.

Many sectors, through government departments, agencies and local authorities, have monitoring mechanisms at district level which could provide the requisite adaptation data and information to feed into the NAP M&E framework. However, there is need for coordination, capacity building and ensuring that the NAP indicators are included in the day to day monitoring of the various stakeholders. There is need to remove the notion of monitoring being a project-based activity but rather a continuous element of the development planning cycle.

CONCLUSION

Current adaptation reporting practices in Zimbabwe tend to use different metrics and indicators for monitoring progress. At the same time, the reporting is programme or project specific, thus easily miss those programmes or projects with no clear reporting obligations. At the same time, the participation of key stakeholders is constrained by limited technical capacity. Moreover, the reporting is inconsistent with regards to gender and inclusivity parameters. Therefore, the current adaptation reporting does not capture a significant proportion of adaptation needs and initiatives. Thus, there is urgent need to develop and strengthen institutional arrangements for rolling out of the NAP MEF to capture and report on adaptation actions through a digital system that links with a centralized data collation, analysis and reporting institution using common indicators.