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Leave No One Behind: Zimbabwe National Dialogue **Report on Findings**

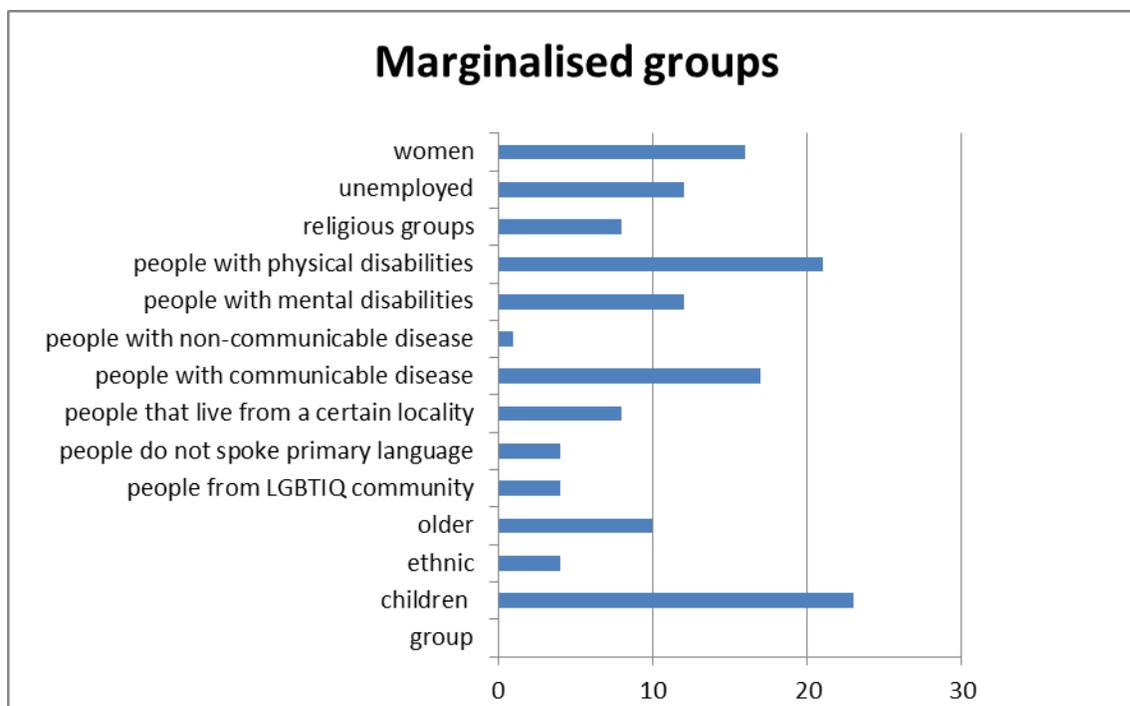
Please include the following: survey results, data charts, input from each of the marginalized groups, overall analysis, geographic analysis, and key policy asks or suggestions for decision makers as well as for other stakeholders to implement.

Guiding questions:

- 1) *Who are the groups and communities in your country that are being left behind?*

Zimbabwe has gone through economic, social and governance turbulences for a prolonged period of time during the era of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 2000 to 2015. During this period the welfare of disenfranchised groups such as children, person with disabilities, the elderly, persons living with HIV and AIDS, women, youth and the rural community were deprived of the social services support, leading to further marginalizing. The poor performance of the economy saw the human development index worsen as the issues of health, education and life expectancy continued to deteriorate. Zimbabwe has remained in the low human development category, reaching its lowest in the recession period, 2000 to 2008, before marginally increasing under the recovery phase, 2009 to 2014. During this time, children drooped out of school and problem was worse for the girl child.

Figure 1: Marginalized groups in Zimbabwe



Source: NANGO survey 2016 for the Leave No One behind

According to the survey, as shown in **figure 1**: Children were found to be the most vulnerable groups in the society, followed by persons with disabilities. These are the groups, which are left out the most in democratic processes. In addition, people with communicable diseases and women are also highly marginalized according to the survey results as shown. From the presentation above, it can be interpreted that people with non-communicable disease is the minor group amongst marginalized population.

During the period of recession and hyperinflation, the social sectors, including education, health, pension systems, and other social protection programmes, lost all financial support and were rendered dysfunctional thereby resulting in increase in incidence of poverty and further marginalization. During this period support to persons with disability, women, youth, children, labour, and Indigenes amongst others deteriorated.

There are several determinants, which are characterized by the regions and people who are marginalized and these include, areas, which are prone to natural disasters in Zimbabwe and these are the ones where the majority are marginalized and they are consistently deprived of services and opportunities. ZimVAC rapid livelihoods assessment for 2016 showed that Rural food insecurity was projected to rise to approximately by 30% (2,8 million people) from the 16% (1,5 million people) initially estimated in May 2015. Some of the region which are highly marginalized include according to the ZimVac report 2016, these are the areas which are experiencing extreme poverty and food insecurity: Umzingwane district, Mwenezi district, Umguza district Bubi district, Chiredzi district, Nkayi district, Lupane district, Mbire district, Kariba district.

2) *Where are people being most left behind? Is there a particular region/locality?*

Poverty and inequality indicators for marginalization have a regional perspective, as there are other regions, which perpetually are under severe poverty, deprivation and access to social services very poor in these areas. Poverty and deprivation is mainly rural phenomena with growing levels of deprivation in newly resettled areas post the land reform. Most of the newly resettled areas have low access to education, health, safe water and sanitation facilities. Children, women travel long distances to go to schools and hospitals. In one of the places we visited in lower Gुरुve there were no hospitals and education facilities some were currently in construction. Generally communities at the periphery of the country close to the borders are generally marginalized. Some of the places are not easily accessible. The districts outlined earlier: Umzingwane district, Mwenezi district, Umguza district Bubi district, Chiredzi district, Nkayi district, Lupane district, Mbire district, Kariba district.

3) *Why are they being left behind?*

The regions, which are being left out in national development processes, are generally left out because of the following reasons amongst others:

- The areas are in the periphery of the country and due to distances and poor road infrastructure the participation of these communities is very low. The projects that the government and other donors implement do not reach the marginalized communities due to the huge operational cost associated with engaging and involving these communities.
- The general lack of will and appreciation from the part of the government authorities to ensure that these communities, which are marginalized, are taken on board on all development processes and beneficiation.
- Some of the areas are susceptible to natural disasters such as prolonged period of dry spells and or floods, which destroy infrastructure and livelihoods options of the communities.
- These communities which are left behind's voice in democratic processes is very low and as such their voice and unique needs are not catered for in the national development programmes and national budgets.
- Historically, these communities have not been taking part in democratic processes and the level of benefiting from the national process has been low and as such there is a historical background, which is not being broken by involving these communities in programming.

4) *What are the data and evidence gaps?*

Most of the information, which is used to measure poverty and deprivation has not been focusing in particular on the regions which are marginalised. Thus for the era of the SDGs there is need to address the data gaps which are there in terms of data collection for the indicators which are in the SDGs. Some of he indicators such as US\$1.25 per day may be difficult to standardised in the Zimbabwe as most of the marginalise groups and regions do not have such measure as measure of poverty prevalence. The tables below show some of the information gathers from the survey.

Figure 2: Benefits obtained by marginalised groups

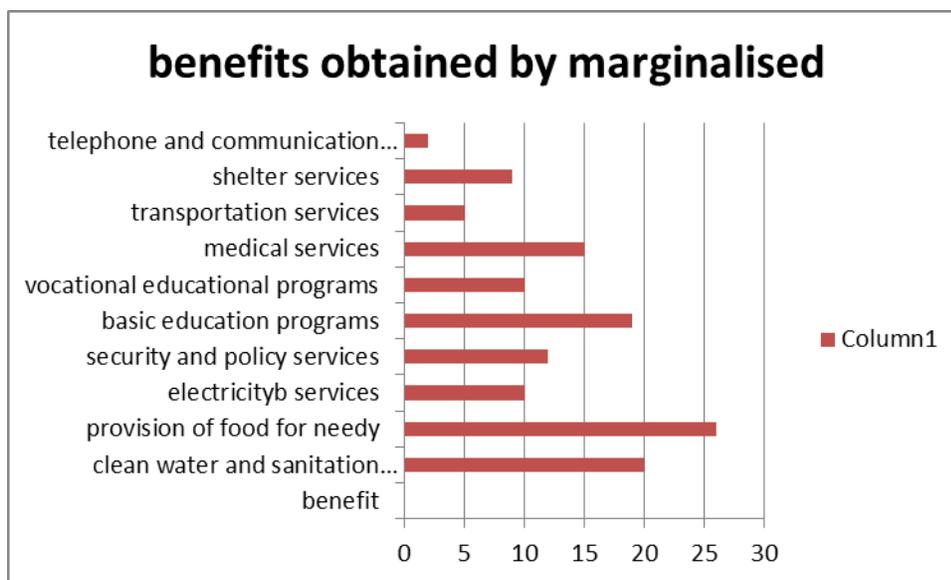


Figure 2 shows the benefits, which are being received by, come of the marginalised groups currently.

5) *What are some stories or testimonies and priorities from those furthest behind?*

Doma Community

Below are some challenges faced by the Doma community and their priorities:

- The community experience erratic rains and floods due to climate change destroying their crops.
- The area is tsetse fly infested and difficulty to rear cows, hence they keep goats which are their major livestock because they are not infected by tsetse.

- Over flooding of Mwanzanutanda river during the rain season render it impossible for the Doma people to access some major services like medication and children fail to attend lessons. Their crops are also destroyed.
- Lack of information on developmental processes and policies like SDGs hence they are not able to meaningfully contribute to any developmental processes.
- The Doma people are located at the periphery of the country, boarder Zambia. They are not easily accessed by development workers and other service provider due to their proximity hence they are failing to access basic things like water, education, medication, food, transport, good road network and shelter.
- Culture, gender, age, language and level of education are barriers when accessing help from service providers.
- They have limited boreholes and some of the available boreholes are dysfunctional.
- The Doma people are still primitive, most of the households do not have toilets, they use bush system.
- Their few crops are vandalized by wild animals and they are not allowed by the national park authorities to kill these animals.
- Parents do not afford to pay school fees and several children are not going to school. The children are engaging in early marriages.
- The Doma people lack farming inputs and equipment like holes, seeds and fertilizers.
- Due to their nomadic lifestyle, they do not have proper and permanent shelters.
- They are failing to raise funds to travel to a registry centre to obtain birth certificates for their children. If they delay to obtain birth certificates, they are fined and in most cases they fail to raise these funds and most of their children do not have birth certificates.

Priorities for the Doma people

- They need to move from temporary to permanent shelters and construction of toilets.
- They need good road networks and rehabilitation of the road and construction of the Mwanzanutanda bridge.
- They need farming inputs
- Women need to start income generating projects and linkages to markets.
- They need construction of boreholes and rehabilitation of the available boreholes.
- They need construction of clinics these include mothers shelters and additional schools in the Doma communities. They need schools for adult education.
- Women need funding to start rearing goats and chicken as income generating

projects and embark on market gardening.

- Men want to start bee keeping and carpentry projects.
- They need their fields to be protected from being vandalized by wild animals.
- They need a birth registration centre in Chief Chapoto area.

6) *What are the main obstacles that marginalised groups are facing in accessing services, resources and opportunities?*

Marginalized groups are failing to access basic services, which are critical for the realisation of the social, economic and political rights. The major stumbling blocks, which have been identified in Zimbabwe, include lack of access to resources to acquire the necessary services. To many this has a historical explanation, there are places which do not have services which are important for the communities to access. In addition, lack of resources and opportunities to break the cycle of poverty as access to education and health continues to be a challenge in these particular areas.

7) *What can be done to remove these obstacles? What lessons exist on what works to leave no one behind in your national context? (e.g. practical, cost effective, innovative).*

To remove these obstacles that are causing the marginalization of the Doma community, there is need for government to get to basics and provide services to its people. It is the duty of the government to provide for its citizens irrespective of geographical location and culture. Basic things like education, clean water, medication, good road networks and participation of citizens in developmental processes are essential to the people and the development of a country. For the government to be able to fulfil its mandate to its citizen, they should work together with CSOs and other development partners, they should compliment each other. Where the government is failing, CSOs should assist in providing the basic things like health infrastructure, education and clean water and sanitation. The Doma people particularly are still primitive and backward, they need to be educated and empowered as well as integrated into the society.

There is need for proper documentation of the things they need as the Doma people and this can be used to lobby the government and other stakeholders. Children and women need to be educated in reproductive health and the importance of educating children. Engagement of these people should be done by people who can speak the same language with them to promote trust and acceptance of the initiatives.

8) *Which SDG goals, targets and indicators need particular focus in your country and why in order to ensure no one is left behind?*

Taking into to consideration that unlike the MDGs the SDGs are many and taking into account the constrained fiscal space the government in consultation with various stakeholders Private Sector, Civil Society, Academia, UN Agencies and other Development Partners agreed to prioritise the ten SDGs to ensure that no one is left behind during the era

of the SDGs. The ten goals and their targets and indicators are as follows: These have a causal effect on the remaining goals and targets as well. Their impact on the welfare of the disenfranchised groups is also high.

- ▶ **Goal 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment;
- ▶ **Goal 7:** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all;
- ▶ **Goal 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture;
- ▶ **Goal 9:** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;
- ▶ **Goal 6:** Ensure availability and sustainable management of WATER and sanitation for all;
- ▶ **Goal 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts;
- ▶ **Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development;
- ▶ **Goal 3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;
- ▶ **Goal 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all; and
- ▶ **Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

9) *What steps, as a coalition, are you planning on taking in the next few years to ensure a) the inclusion of marginalised groups in policy decisions and implementation and b) feedback on national progress towards the delivery of the SDGs and the LNB pledge?*

- Engage government through the relevant Ministry on the priorities that were raised by the different marginalised groups.
- Organising sector meetings which will be looking at the issues raised during the per survey and consultative process
- Conducting policy dialogue meetings with policy makers and line ministries
- Mobilise resources and programs to be implemented in the marginalised areas in particular the Doma community in lower Guruve
- Developing CSOs SDG annual progress report with emphasis on the indicators showing changes on the lives of the marginalised
- Broadening the baseline data
- Continue with sensitisation of communities on the SDGs and empower them to articulate their development issues.

Feel free to also use other mediums to display your information such as the online tool storymaps: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/en/how-to/>