



Validation workshop on the Zimbabwe National Human Settlement Policy

15th August 2019

Steven Margolis Resort, Harare, Zimbabwe



Strengthening Human Rights Monitoring and Protection in Zimbabwe



Embassy of Sweden
Harare



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency



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1. Background

The Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) is part of an IOM led consortium that is implementing a collaborative initiative that is primarily aimed at strengthening the capacity of Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission to work with IOM and its network of partners in monitoring and advocating for rights of vulnerable and at risk populations. Vulnerable and at risk populations, include, but are not limited to, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), host communities, women, girls, men and boys who are victims of targeted human rights violations and intimidation. The CFHD has been supporting Rural Local Authorities Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in advancing human rights monitoring and protection within their mandate and areas of operations through its Human Rights Support Network (HRSN). The project has noted the need for engagement with Government on strategic issues and policy, given the rapid increase in displacements in both and rural areas of Zimbabwe. It is against this background that the CFHD seeks to collaborate with the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing in conducting a national stakeholder validation workshop on the Human Settlement Policy in Zimbabwe to bring together national stakeholders to deliberate on the draft policy and ensure citizen voices and views are correctly represented in the draft policy document.

2. Introduction

The CFHD in collaboration with IOM and UNDP conducted a validation workshop on the Human Settlement Policy at Steven Margolis on the 15th of August 2019. The validation workshop sought to bring together stakeholders from several ministries and institutions to discuss and review the human settlement policy draft before it is finalized and taken through the various stages of approval by the Cabinet. Representatives from Mashonaland East, West and Central, Matebelaland North and South, Midlands, Manicaland, Harare and Bulawayo provinces attended the workshop. The workshop was officially opened by the Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing. 123 participants (92 males and 31 females) attended the workshop.

The main objective of the workshop was to create a broader dialogue platform for the review and validation of the Zimbabwe Human Settlement Policy to be able to identify gaps and articulate issues of human rights protection, social inclusion, IDPs and gender equality based on stakeholder experiences and field lessons by IOM and its partners for an informed Human Settlement Policy in Zimbabwe.

3. Workshop Outcomes and Emerging Issues



Figure 1 Minister, Hon July Moyo giving his opening remarks

The workshop, which was officially by the Minister of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing urged participants to be open and highly critical of the draft policy and identify issues that needed to be clarified, included and/or removed for the development of an improved and final version. In his address during the workshop the Minister, Hon. July Moyo, highlighted that in order to achieve the 2030 vision of having world class cities, there is need to promote inclusivity of all players at rural and urban local authorities. Professionals such as engineers, accountants and planners play a very important role in development of smart and sustainable cities. He also stated that a report produced by the World Bank revealed that Zimbabwe has a high rate of urban to rural migration. The Minister noted that the current housing policy has a number of gaps that needed to be addressed. The policy should provide a comprehensive response to issues such as planning, development and control of human settlements. He added that the policy will also promote clean energy solutions and ensure safe settlements rather than houses that are haphazardly constructed. He stated that the policy should be sustainable and contribute to the new urban agenda while responding to issues of resilience, building back better and climate change.

4. IOM Opening Remarks

The IOM noted that the policy will contribute towards achieving SDG 11 of Agenda 2030 which provides for safe, inclusive and sustainable cities and human settlements. He also noted that the Human Settlement Policy is a positive step towards ensuring the fulfillment of Section 28 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe

which points to the need for all state and governments agencies to take reasonable measures to enable every person to have access to adequate shelter. He added that human settlements goes hand in hand with migration and IOM is in the process of supporting the government in developing a National Migration Policy.



Figure 2 Sam Daniels presenting the IOM Remarks on Human Settlement Policy

The presentation by IOM highlighted a number of challenges and issues that need to be considered in finalizing the Zimbabwe Human Settlement Policy. These were mainly:

Box 1: Issues for Policy Consideration in Human Settlement Policy

- The policy to pursue lasting solutions to the problem of displacement in Zimbabwe
- To provide durable solutions for the victims of displacements with the support from development partners, UN, CSOs and private sector united together
- To see the policy contributing towards the security of tenure of the citizens of Zimbabwe while providing permanence of shelter.
- To holistically address key drivers of both internal and international migration to minimise pressure on urban settlements and already over stretched service delivery infrastructure.

5. Brief overview of the ZNHSP

Dr. Chatiza, a local government expert who was responsible for the drafting of the policy gave a brief summary of the policy. He highlighted that the policy was anchored on several provisions of the

constitution such as section 3 & 5, 8 & 9, 13-17, 19-22, 28-30, 71-74 and 77 with a more general focus on Chapters 14 to 17 (provincial and local government, traditional leaders, agricultural land and financial management respectively). He indicated that the ministry conducted consultations across the ten provinces of Zimbabwe and managed to conduct interviews in 22 settlements and reaching out to more than 750 people. Feedback from the consultations were compiled to draw up the draft policy being tabled for validation by the stakeholders.

5.1 Policy concepts

- **Settlements:** physical, social and economic spaces that combine people's houses, structures for economic activities and multi-use open spaces connected/served by infrastructure. They are imprinted onto, draw basic resources from and impact the natural environment. Can aid or stymy social development;
- **Settlements:** villages, urban neighborhoods (hundreds), urban centers (500+) and farm-plantation settlements (thousands);
- **Settlement Governance:** Processes of planning, developing and managing/running settlements. These are state functions to deliver on basic human rights. The policy sets principles, structures & guides effective performance of these functions.

5.2 Lessons learnt

Dr. Chatiza noted that a number of lessons were drawn from the consultations they conducted across the country and these include;

- Residents, including the poor need effective and transparent political and technical leadership to cooperate, co-develop and implement settlement solutions;
- Large scale offsite infrastructure investments are needed. Users cannot wholly fund them hence macro-financial and delivery instruments are needed;
- Mobilized social movements and effectively organized communities are an important ingredient for sustainable human settlements;
- Some aspects of planning and resourcing of settlements (e.g. slum upgrading and urban renewal) involve slow processes that require inclusive & equitable inter-governmental fiscal frameworks & empowered LG's;
- Institutions involved in land, planning and housing need to be accountable and transparent (this should be independently verifiable);
- The culture of multiple mass evictions violates people's constitutional rights and erodes opportunities for inclusive settlement governance; and
- Efficient intra/inter-settlement mass transport systems and integrated economic development aid creation of sustainable settlements.

5.3 Functions of spatial planning committee

In his remarks Dr. Chatiza revealed that the policy will provide for the duties of the spatial planning committee and these will include

- Develop/review minimum service packages for the different categories of human settlements;
- Develop or revise and publish the National Human Settlement Hierarchy and Database clarifying the i) socio-economic functions and performance thresholds for each settlement category, ii) minimum services to be provided, and iii) socio-economic institutions of Councils to be established;
- Prepare Terms of Reference for Human Settlement Service and Performance Audits, reviewing results and monitoring implementation of relevant recommendations;
- Determine or review procedures for the provision of efficient spatial planning services including (but not limited to) i) approval levels for the different categories of spatial plans, ii) turnaround times for key services, iii) professional ethics and content for continuous professional development, and iv) citizen participation modalities; and
- Develop or revise Urban Renewal and Slum Upgrading guidelines or protocols.

6. UN Habitat Perspectives on the Draft Human Settlement Policy

The UN-Habitat 2014 report noted that a human settlements policy is expected to provide a 'plan for the identification of problems and/or opportunities, the establishment of goals, the delegation of roles, and the ability to monitor and evaluate success of the policy. The UN Habitat noted that the development of National Human Settlement Policies is shaped by national and local contexts of the individual countries, relevant global frameworks that guide planning and development of settlements and international best practices and tools from other countries that went through similar processes. Key global frameworks that guide settlement planning and development include Agenda 2030, the New Urban Agenda and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. In Africa countries that have successfully developed human settlements policies include Rwanda, South Africa, Kenya, Zambia and Ghana. The UN Habitat stated that they will provide inputs drawn from the assessment of the spatial planning impacts of Cyclone Idai & previous work in Zimbabwe. Findings from the assessment conducted after the Cyclone Idai revealed that:

- Some construction materials are not very appropriate for high rainfall areas, especially the use of farm burnt bricks in masonry work
- Planning standards that may be in-appropriate in disaster prone areas e.g. inadequate buffer zones, small stand sizes in high density area (150sq m), provision of open spaces, certain aspects of urban design
- Local authorities are constrained in terms of providing effective development control, leading to the development of settlements that are not disaster resilient

6.1 Areas identified for UN Habitat intervention

- Conducting an in depth situation analysis to improve evidence for the policy

- UN-Habitat ready to contribute to the structure and content issues of the ZHNSP
- Interrogate & respond to challenges faced by Zimbabwean settlements e.g. population hotspots, informal settlements and urban sprawl, waste management practices, proneness to disasters and lack of resilience etc.
- Corresponding policy proposals need further attention
- Contribute towards development of framework for monitoring and evaluating the ZHNSP
- Contribute towards a review of existing planning frameworks e.g. RTCP, Planning Standards and certain by-laws to factor in urban resilience and disaster risk reduction.

7. Emerging issues from the plenary session



Figure 3 Dr Chatiza leading the Plenary Section

Dr. Chatiza facilitated a session whereby participants were tasked to identify areas they were in agreement with, that needed improvement and gaps they noted in the draft policy. The table below outlines some of the issues that emerged during the discussions

AGREE	IMPROVEMENT	GAPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy upholds inclusivity of all partners and stakeholders • There is room for registration and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonization of all legal provisions that provide for human settlements (potential area for collaborative stakeholder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of sacred areas such as places that hold ancestral value • The policy should be upgraded to Statutory

<p>regulation of urban and rural planners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of harmonization of policies • Approved plan on security of tenure • Standardization of settlements 	<p>engagement beyond present policy dialogue meeting).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy should cover aspects of compensation of displaced people • There should be clear description of roles of traditional leaders and local government structures • The policy should have provisions on gender and disability • Bills that also support the policy should be finalized • Policy implementation mechanisms need to be clearly developed with all key stakeholders. • Finalization of pending bills 	<p>Instrument which will be enforceable at law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community sensitization of the policy • Policy should provide for financing models • Land ownership and property rights in communal lands and peri communal lands • Information management system • No provisions on value of property in rural areas • Relationship between local government and central government should be clearly defined
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8. Conclusions and Way Forward

Several conclusions can be drawn from the validation workshop. The main ones are:

- There is **high level awareness by policy makers** on current challenges and issues impacting on sustainable and resilient human settlement in Zimbabwe as outlined by the Minister of Local Government.
- There are **new issues and trends** that require adequate **research and engagement** with communities that impact on realization of SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities. The issues relate to the New Urban Agenda, Mainstreaming Disaster Risk and Building Back Better, Citizen Rights and Entitlements in Existing and New Urban Spaces, Novel Solutions to IDPs and slums upgrading. These issues need **collaborative engagement** with communities, stakeholders,

researchers, practitioners and policy makers for tangible progress to be made – essentially a partnership approach. Mechanisms for **information and knowledge sharing** on these issues remain weak at all levels.

- There is **strong appreciation on the work that partners of Government** have been doing in addressing some of the challenges especially IOM with its various interventions and in the Cyclone Response, Civic Forum on Human Development, in spear-heading dialogue and engagement with communities and stakeholders and UNDP, in making sure that strategic engagement with Government by all stakeholders is strengthened and UN-Habitat in providing technical support on human settlements in Zimbabwe based on best practices at regional and international level. This **collaborative approach would need to be strengthened** in addressing emerging issues and gaps in the human settlement policy process and in ensuring successful implementation of the policy in the future. **Collaborative dialogue** among the partners on emerging issues for research and policy dialogue needs to be strengthened into the future to develop **joint action plans** for responding to these issues.
- There are **several issues for strengthening** the draft policy document. These include issues of social inclusion and gender equality, disability, policy harmonization, integration of cultural and ethical considerations in human settlements, link with local, regional and international human rights conventions, incorporation of best practices in human settlement policy from regional and global experiences, roles of local level structures and traditional leaders, land rights and entitlements. The consultant will synthesize all the participants' contributions for finalizing the policy document before it is taken through the Cabinet approval process. It will be critical to **share the draft final policy** to check if all the emerging issues have been integrated into the policy document. This would be a primary responsibility of the team working with the Consultant in the Ministry of Local Government but an expression of interest to receive the final policy document as part of the workshop outputs could be made by the Partners. Besides, **partners can offer technical support for technical review** of the final policy document if need be.

List of Participants

	NAME	SEX	ID NUMBER	NAME OF ORGANISATION	DESIGNATION
1	Matemera H	M	63-499589 R 87	UDCORP	Head
2	Ncube Sithandiwe	F	21-003915 R 21	Local Govt	A/PDC
3	Chief Khulumani Mathema	M	73-030101 T 28	Traditional Leader	Chief
4	Absolom Masendeke	M	66-011322 L 66	CFHD	Director
5	Hazel Musvowi	F	63-794272 Z 34	City of Mutare	Acting Chief Planner
6	Dennis Muranduri	M	43-035295 T 43	Epworth L.B	A/Housing Manager
7	Chingwendi M	M	77-031166 F 77	DPP	A/PPO
8	Shepherd Ndurahwi	M	75-112565 R 75	EDDPZ	National Director
9	Mercy Maungande	F	63-916596 – 27	Disability Board	Chairperson
10	Memory Munyoro	F	83-058591 B 83	Assistant	Chairperson
11	Bothwell Chidziwa	M	24-130921 L 47	DPP	PT.P.O
12	Mutsvairo E	F	63-1127844 A 07	MLGPW & NH	Internal Auditor
13	Dzehonye E	M	59-042612 B 07	City of Harare	Housing Manager
14	Zivumba Moleck	M	22-238210 R 22	DPP	Planning Officer
15	Zimbabwe Ndlovu	M	53-052939 M 53	Nkayi RDC	CEO
16	Madzinga Luckmore	M	63-422548 B 47	Ministry of Transport	Principal Research Officer
17	Mark Kadaira	M	70-102386 V 11	Ministry of Local Gvt	DDC Mazowe
18	Patience Mudimu	F	63-297913 N 47	D.S	Director
19	Msipa Chenaimoyo	F	22-217922 P 12	L.G.P.W & N. H	Housing Officer
20	Liberty Mufandawadza	M	15-075357 G 15	Mazowe RDC	CEO
21	Roger Evina	M		IOM	Head of Unit
22	Nyamande Brain T	M	79-089236 K 27	Vic Falls Municipality	Director Housing
23	Nyakuti Ratin	M	63-768555 W 40	Local Gvt	P/Accountant
24	Gadzikwa Francis	M	63-1264039 N 47	MLGPW & N.H	Chief Housing Officer
25	Chimatira Tandiwe	F	63-1322936 G 32	MLGPW & NH	Housing Officer
26	Chivasa Misheck	M	63-166618 R 27	MLGPW & NH	Maintenance Officer
27	Mkhululi Nyathi	M	08-605641 G 39	Home seek ezswc	Director
28	Evelyn Madziire	F	75-190185 L 75	Bindura Municipality	Director Housing
29	Wisdom Siziba	M	08-477082 T 41	Bulawayo City Council	Deputy Director
30	Makario Chinongwa	M	77-068426 C 77	Zimrights	Program Officer

31	Chris Jana	M	08-792332 C 77	PPC Cement	Sales Rep
32	Richard M Mdombo	M	63-788907 S 27	Pfura RDC	Town Planner
33	Camelious Machingura	M	42-108217 A 42	Zimbabwe Community Development Trust	Director
34	Blessing Kwambana	M	75-375647 A 50	Rusape Town Council	Town Planner
35	Mhlanga Aggrey	M	15-031603 Y 13	MLGPW &NH	Chief Housing
36	Lydia Chinomona	F	08-887136 E 48	CFHD	Capacity Building Officer
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38	Robson Chodongo	M	71-023393 P 71	Mbire RDC	Council Chair
39	Dumezweni M.G Sandi	M	08-705335 H 43	GG Property Developers	Projects Director
40	Fradreck Dapi	M	63-865644 C 80	City Harare	Ass D.O
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48	Freedom Sibanda	M	08-771011 G 35	Lupane Local Board	Housing Officer
49	Maxwell Marezva	M	34-079237 Y 34	CBZ Bank	Mortgages Manager
50	Mutsvangwa Emmanuel	M	59-0200105 J 32	Physical Planning	Chief Housing Officer
51	Sam Chaikosa	M	63-196039 W 48	CFHD	Coordinator/Manager
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56	M. Zivhare	M		UZ - DRUP	Lecturer
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74	Eng H Hungwe	M	08-208390M03	MLGPW & NH	DES
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76	D Khumalo	M	28-049335G28	Byo City Council	DHCS
77	Munyawa Fungai	M	75-302812G75	Physical Planning Manicaland	P.PO
78	Tigere Shingirai	M	63-384035P05	City of Gweru	DHCS
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94	P Mutavati	M	11-033306Y15	UNIHABITAT	Housing Officer
95	N Mutikuwe	M	44-076368V44	MLGPWNH	Housing Officer
96	Timoth Mtuwani	M	08-629456S03	MOG	TP
97	Chibururu Chisainyepwa	M	75-198192P75	Physical Planning	PPO
98	Edmore Chidembo	M	75-197139V75	Makoni RDC	DE
99	Isaac Mazambe	M	63-1279983T63	MLGPWNH	Engineer
100	Jemitias Mandinyeya	M	04-062901W04	Chaminuka RDC	A/CEO
101	C Chavhunduka	M	75-088905Z42	RVP	Chairman
102	A Matika	M	63-095026Z75	ZAHF	Secretary
103	N Haatendi	M	42-202922W42	MLGPWNH	HO
104	B Chapotoka	M	66-052565Q66	MLGPWNH	CHO
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112	John Choto	M	18-08658I18	MoHCC	Policy
113	Rejoice Timire	F		POZ	Senator
114	Pamela Timire	F	63-1326270F04	POZ	Assistant
115	Costa Mande	M	71-090915H71	City of Harare	Councillor
116	Botham Mupfurutsa	M	71-143981N71	POZ	Sntr Assistant

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