



**AFRICAN  
DEPARTMENT**

# **Data for Decisions (D4D) Fund Steering Committee Meeting**

## **IMF Technical Assistance on Statistics— Experience of Zimbabwe**

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## **Capacity Development (CD) Program Delivery in Zimbabwe—Some Key Highlights**



### **Context**



### **IMF CD Delivery on Statistics—Recent Achievements and Importance of Data Usage for IMF Engagement in Zimbabwe**



### **IMF CD Priorities on Statistics**



## CD delivery in Zimbabwe—Some Key Highlights

### ZIMBABWE

- IMF intensive surveillance country.
- Classified as **Fragile** and Conflict-affected State (FCS).
- Near-program

### ENGAGEMENT WITH IMF

- Surveillance and an active capacity development (CD) program country, mainly technical assistance (TA) and training.
- CD programs are delivered both from IMF headquarter and by the IMF's Regional Technical Assistance Center for Southern Africa (AFS)—virtual / internet-based / in-person.



## CD delivery in Zimbabwe—Some Key Highlights (continued)

### THE AUTHORITIES' VIEWS ON DATA USAGE

- Expressed appreciation for the extensive CD on statistical issues provided by the Fund.
- Noted the importance of CD in building institutional capacity at the Finance Ministry, particularly at Zimbabwe Statistical Agency.
- See CD as important for supporting their economic and social policies.
- Noted that Fund CD was well aligned with the macroeconomic objectives and priorities underlying their National Development Strategy.
- Requested support on statistical issues for the period ahead.

### DATA USAGE FOR IMF WORK IN ZIMBABWE

- CD programs on statistical issues have been central to the Fund's engagement with Zimbabwe.
- Reflect the authorities' requests and Fund staff's assessment of priorities.



## IMF CD Delivery—Context

### **ACTUAL**

- Following the clearance by Zimbabwe of its PRGT arrears to the Fund, the IMF Executive Board removed on November 14, 2016, all remedial measures, including limitations on the provision of CD.
- Zimbabwe is ineligible to access IMF financing due to its external arrears to official creditors and unsustainable debt situation.

### **PROSPECTIVELY**

- Securing support of the international community will be important for arrears' clearance and Zimbabwe's development agenda.
- Close coordination with development partners and other CD providers is required to ensure complementarities.



## IMF CD Delivery on Statistics—Recent Achievements

- March 14—Zimbabwe implemented the e-GDDS (with JSA funding) and launched the data portal—the National Summary Data Page—testament to Zimbabwe’s commitment to data transparency.
- Zimbabwe will benefit from using the e-GDDS as a framework for further development of its statistical system (accessible in a standardized way to facilitate analysis of economic trends across countries and to provide an early detection of risks to help avert economic crises, thus supporting sustainable economic growth and development).
- The authorities recently published estimates of annual gross domestic product (GDP) by the production approach for the years 2019- 2021 in ZWL. The authorities are currently back-casting data prior to 2019.



## Zimbabwe—IMF CD Priorities on Statistics

- In order to durably restore macroeconomic stability and enhance the foundations for higher and more inclusive growth.
- The IMF will continue to assist the authorities through a tailored CD program on statistics.
- Fund CD implementation has been generally good in some areas and contributed to improving local capacity, though there is still scope for improvement (and to improve policy traction).
- CD priorities will focus on: (1) completing the quarterly national accounts and this will be the objective of a round of TA missions in the coming year; (2) key data gaps on statistic; (3) ratcheted up data quality; (4) broadening data dissemination to help detect economic vulnerabilities and risks; and (5) improving economic decision-making.

# Thank you

