ZCIEA PROFILE

ZIMBABWE CHAMBER OF INFORMAL ECONOMY ASSOCIATIONS (ZCIEA)

ZIM FRUIT AND VEGETABLE TRADERS IN THE CBD OF HARARE

“The Chamber that Delivers”
OUR CONTACT DETAILS

7 Beal Road
BELVEDERE
HARARE
ZIMBABWE
Tel: +263 4 749771 / 2
Email: zcieazim@gmail.com
Website: info@zciea.org.zw
Twitter: @zcieazim
Secretary General: wisbornmalaya@gmail.com
President: blondiendlovu1@gmail.com
The Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Associations (ZCIEA) is a National Membership driven Organization representing Informal Traders Associations of Zimbabwe.

It is made up of the self employed and informal employees engaged in small unregistered or un-incorporated enterprises and undeclared workers.

The organization was founded in 2002 by a group of 22 Informal Traders Associations who desired to have an Apex body for this massive 84% of the Zimbabwean Economy which paradoxically had a weak voice, vulnerable to harassments, political abuse, no income security and lack of social protection.
This was a direct response to the collapse of formal setups as a result of Economic Structural Adjustment programme (ESAP) which was introduced by the Zimbabwean government in the 1990s. The company closures, retrenchments and the inability of formal structures to absorb the job seekers gave rise to massive expansion of the informal economy.

On seeing the continued marginalization of this sector, formation of this Apex body was a result of a tripartite decision by ZCTU (Labour) EMCOZ (Business) and Ministry of Labour (Government).

The objective was to harness these precarious operations and seek means and strategies that will facilitate mainstreaming of the Informal Economy with a view to empowering it socially and economically.
However the direct organizing and setting up of the structures was spearheaded by Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) which established an informal economy desk for this cause.

ZCIEA worked with the ZCTU informal economy desk which played the advisory role to the organization until 2016.

Currently ZCIEA has 43 territories throughout Zimbabwe
• **THE VISION**
  Decent standards of living for all Zimbabweans in a stable economy.

• **THE MISSION**
  Alleviating poverty through transforming informal economy activities into mainstream activities.

**OBJECTIVES**

- To organize, establish, promote and protect the interest of the informal economy traders in Zimbabwe.
- To foster for democratization of the environment through rights awareness, lobby and advocacy programmes targeting the rank and file of the Informal Economy Workers.
To influence policy formations which will bring about social and economic change whilst providing for the transformation of the Informal Economy activities in Zimbabwe and beyond.

• **ZCIEA SLOGAN**

  “The Chamber That Delivers”
ZCIEA VALUES & PRINCIPLES

• GENDER SENSITIVITY
• WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
• YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
• DEMOCRACY
• GOOD GOVERNANCE
• TEAM WORK
• RESPECT
• CONTINUITY
• INCLUSIVE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT
• LOYALITY TO MEMBERSHIP
• NON DESCrimINATORY
• UNITY OF PURPOSE
• NON PARTISAN
MEMBERSHIP & SECTOR COVERAGE

- Current registered membership of ZCIEA is 217,348.
- With subscribed membership of 11,870.
- 60% are women, 25% men and 15% youth
  - 32 Territories
  - 265 Chapters

POTENTIAL MEMBERSHIP IS ABOVE 4 MILLION
MEMBERSHIP & SECTOR COVERAGE CONT........

ZIMBABWE CHAMBER OF INFORMAL ECONOMY ASSOCIATIONS

Harare (H)
Bulawayo (B)
Mutare (MU)
Gweru (MD)
Kwekwe (MD)
Kadoma (MW)
Chegutu (MW)
Norton (MW)
Chivhu (MD)
Sanyati (MW)
Masvingo (M)
Bindura (MC)
Gutu (MA)
 Beitbridge (MS)
Karoi (MW)
Kariba (MW)
Guruve (MC)
Chipinge (M)
Marondera (ME)
Caledonia (ME)
Tsholotsho (MN)
Gokwe (MD)
Zhombe (MD)
Banket (MW)
Nkayi (MN)
Inyangwa (M)
Chivanhimani (M)
Rusape (MU)
Mrchwa-Mtoko (ME)
Mt Darwin (MC)
Mhondoro (MA)
Chitungwiza (ME)
Gokwe (MD)
Mashava (M)
Binga (MN)
Vic Falls (MN)
Macheke (ME)
Hwange (MN)
Gwanda (MS)
Plumtree (MS)
Zvishavane (MD)
Chiredzi (MA)
Chinhoyi (MW)

“The Chamber that delivers”
for transforming informal activities
into mainstream activities
MEMBERSHIP & SECTOR COVERAGE CONT........

- Fruit and vegetable traders
- Street hawkers and vendors e.g. airtime sellers
- Cross border traders
- Foreign currency dealers
- Carpenters, welders and tradesman
- Motor mechanics and panel beaters
- Sculptures
- Artisanal miners
- Brick moulders
- Retail (sole traders) e.g. Tuckshop owners
- Tailors, screen & paper printers
- Poultry traders
- Commodity brokers
- Technical services providers
- Manufacturers

The list of where membership is drawn from is not exhaustive. The above categorisation highlights how the informal economy has become the backbone of the Zimbabwe Economy.
ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

- **MEMBERS**
  - THE IS WHERE THE ORGANISATION IS BUILT UPON.

- **CONGRESS**
  - WHICH IS THE SUPREME DECISION MAKING BOARD FOR THE ORGANISATION. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP IS ELECTED HERE EVERY 4 YEARS. MAIN, WOMEN AND YOUTH STRUCTURE.

- **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
  - IS THE DECISION MAKING BOARD IN BETWEEN CONGRESSES. CAN ADDRESS SPECIAL ISSUES AS UPTAKE FROM THE CONGRESS REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.

- **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**
  - IS THE CONGRESS ELECTED NATIONAL LEADERSHIP. TERRITORIAL PRESIDENTS, 1 NATIONAL WOMEN’S CHAIR AND SECRETAR, NATIONAL YOUTH CHAIR AND PWD NATIONAL CHAIR AND SECRETARY.

- **TERRITORY**
  - TERRITORIAL LEADERSHIP IS ELECTED HERE FOR MAIN COMMITTEE, WOMEN AND YOUTH.

- **CHAPTER**
  - CHAPTER LEADERSHIP IS ELECTED FOR TRADE OR AREA ZONE REPRESENTATIVES.

- **AREA ZONE**
  - MEMBERS MAKE UP AREA COMMITTEES

- **THE STRUCTURE HAS A BOTTOM UP AND UP BOTTOM APPROACH OF COMMUNICATION**
ZIMBABWE CHAMBER OF INFORMAL ECONOMY ASSOCIATIONS

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
1ST DEPUTY NATIONAL PRESIDENT
3RD DEPUTY NATIONAL PRESIDENT
SECRETARY GENERAL
1ST DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
2ND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
TREASURER
NATIONAL ORGANISER
VICE NATIONAL ORGANISER
WOMEN CHAIRPERSON
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY (CP)
YOUTH CHAIRPERSON
TECHNICAL ADVISOR
OFFICE SECRETARY

for transforming informal activities into mainstream activities
What are the needs of Informal Economy Workers and on account Entrepreneur Workers?

- The informal economy has loaded needs which cut across social, economic and political spheres. Social needs include social protection. These are issues to do with lack of pension, health, and injury, maternity for women schemes, child care facilities and the general decent living standards due to poverty.
- The environment is a survivalist environment where on average a household dependent ratio is 1:8. Within the 8, 4 may be adult and 4 children. Out of 4 adults maybe 2 are the bread winners to make kids go to school and feed the whole family from the informal work basket. So there is need to invest in basic social safety needs to cushion the social being of the Informal Economy workers.
- There are also economic needs that informal economy workers have. These include financial inclusion, operational infrastructure, enabling operational environment- decriminalisation of informal operational work space.
- Another important key need to informal economy workers also is the issue to do with incorporation of informal economy work into mainstream market value chain systems (building developmental and sustainable business/ work synergies.
- All groups of workers are affected by Informal working relations- women, men, skilled and unskilled youth and people with disabilities.
• The political needs that the Informal Workers have definitely encompass a push for a pro-poor policy regime which is not biased by partisan political agenda but rather a developmental economic agenda. They require a stop to violence and harassment on the informal work. Awareness raising on ratification or domestication of international instruments such as International Labor Organisation (ILO) Recommendation 204 of 2015, ILO Convention 190 and Recommendation 205 of 2019 and other associated International Instruments.

What are the Barriers, what works for organising and for claims for political participation space?
• There is the pro-elitist government which is having non-tolerance of the majority citizens who are poor and hardworking informal economy workers. The sudden introductions of Statutory Instruments are negatively impacting which further criminalise the informal economy and at the same time milk their hard earned dollar to keep them as much in poverty.
• The informal economy have seriously been affected by the partisan political interference in developmental issues such that the informal economy traders have remained neglected. Be that as it may, embarking on campaigns, continuous member recruitments as well as awareness raising works for the informal economy workers to be recognized and respected.
The picture above shows Harare Municipal Officer destroying vendors stalls during brutal evictions on the 3rd of August 2018.
INTERNET LINKS ON THE CHALLENGES FACED BY INFORMAL ECONOMY WORKERS IN ZIMBABWE

1. ZCIEA Saves Jambanja Market Traders from eviction through High Court Order
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=aQb7Hu_77LU

2. Informal Economies – Documentary produced by ZCIEA
   https://www.facebook.com/Nafunatv/videos/1123706477715735/?q=NafunaTV-%20DOCUMENTARY&epa=SEARCH_BOX

3. ZCIEA Campaign against child sexual abuse. #PaedophilesMustFall

4. Destruction of vendor stalls around Harare CBD

5. Eviction of vendors from Gweru & Kwekwe suddenly after elections
The picture on the left side shows ZCIEA members from Chinhoyi Territory holding placards outside Chinhoyi Magistrate Court during a Campaign against child sexual abuse 19 October 2019. #PaedophilesMustFallZCIEA

The picture on the right side shows PWD member whose wheelchair was confiscated during brutal evictions in Harare CBD.
The above picture shows a woman who is disabled struggling to earn a living through vending and she is not spared from harassment and brutal eviction from her workplace by local authorities. The video shows People With Disabilities singing and marching during 2018 PWD Day commemorations.
The picture above left shows ZCIEA Member Ms Bokani Dube from Tokwana Village in Plumtree one of the ZCIEA Solar Project beneficiary. The far right picture shows excitement from the beneficiaries of the Solar Project, ZCIEA Leadership and Ward councillor after the Commissioning of the Solar Project.

Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OR_sqBAvy-4&t=3s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OR_sqBAvy-4&t=3s)
ZCIEA Online database demonstration by Information and Communications Officer Fungai Dyke Munetsi