

PROGRAMME

Week of Learning 23-27 August

## Elevate Justice & Equality











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#### Week of Learning and Action

The Tax Justice and Extractives Week of Learning and Action runs under the theme 'Just and Equitable Taxation of the Extractive Sector – Making mining work for the people of Southern Africa.' This theme has been specifically selected in order to point the SADC community to the problem of the Region's failure to collectively hold the Extractive Sector accountable for rampant resource leakages and illicit financial flows that leave the region poorer, unstable and more prone to debt, conflict and extreme patterns of inequality. It is crucial now more than ever to shine the spotlight on tax justice and the extractive sector with a view towards seeking more sustainable, just and equitable ways to manage our natural resources.

The Goal of the Week of Learning and Action is: **To put tax justice, illicit financials flows and extractivism on the SADC public agenda**. Guided by this overall aim the Week will pursue the following key objectives:

- 1. To create accessible platforms for constructive engagement on taxation and illicit financial and extractivism in Southern Africa.
- 2. To raise popular awareness and understanding of the issues and factors affecting the governance of the extractive sector in Southern Africa
- 3. To lay the foundation for citizen driven actions to contribute towards a just, equitable and sustainable extractives sector in Southern Africa

#### **Background to the Week of Learning and Action**

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the extractives sector alone accounts for USD40 billion of the annual USD88,6 billion lost through IFFs out of Africa. These massive and unaccountable resource leakages undermine ongoing public responses to address pressing needs and predispose the Region to extreme poverty, heavy indebtedness, resource induced conflicts and inequality.

Asymmetrical international trade and financial systems combined with weak local institutions make it difficult for most African countries to leverage wealth from natural resources to address pressing public needs.

Fiscal regimes governing the extractives sector in Southern African have failed to effectively tax the

extractive sector or hold it accountable for illicit financial flows. As a result, Southern Africa's resource-rich countries are not only faced with dwindling tax revenues from the extractive sector partly due to falling global commodity prices but also to harmful tax incentives or outright tax avoidance.

The transformation of fiscal transparency and regulatory regimes in Southern Africa's extractive sector to curb outflows of financial resources is long overdue Systemic theft, looting and channelling away of natural resources from Southern Africa is holding back development, leaving too many of our people in conditions of conflict, dispossession, extreme poverty, human rights abuse, climate dilapidation and obscene inequality.

Ineffective fiscal regimes governing the extractive sector must be transformed to enable the just and equitable mobilization of tax revenues from the extractives sector. Key to this is the overdue need to strengthen regional fiscal transparency, accountability and regulatory mechanisms in the extractive sector. This will require the publication of all relevant contracts, and the establishment of minimum standards to regulate taxation, human rights (including future generations' rights to access natural wealth), and corporate governance associated with the extractive industries in Southern Africa, while envisioning and rapidly implementing a just and equitable, post-extractive future.

#### **Learning and Action Dialogue Themes**

#### **Day 1: Tax Justice and Extractives**

The first day will focus on how governments in Southern Africa can leverage natural resource wealth to address pressing development needs by strengthening tax linkages and curbing illicit financial flows from mining. Conversations during this day will therefore zero in on anti-illicit financial flow measures, and explore both technical and political solutions required to curb outflows of financial resources and stimulate redistribution to address pressing public needs.

#### Day 2 Gender dimensions of tax injustice and extractivism

Day 2 will focus on the disproportionate impacts of IFFs on women in Southern Africa, showcasing the extent to which extractivism has invariably made women poorer and more susceptible to violence, displacements and loss of rights. To this end conversations will be geared towards amplifying women's voices and seeking ways to undo the structural factors that inhibit women's equitable participation and influence in natural resource governance.

#### Day 3 Making mining work for the people of Southern Africa

Day 3 will draw from the rich and diverse experiences of the local communities, Activists and Human Rights Defenders to envision alternative pathways to make mining work for the people of Southern Africa. Due attention will be paid to the preponderance of conflict, poverty and climate damage in many mining communities in the Southern Africa amidst limited corporate accountability or legal protections for affected communities. At the end of the day, participants will be challenged to help envision pathways to make mining work for the people.

#### **Day 4 Debt and Extractives nexus**

Day 4 is committed to exploring the relationship between debt and extractives. Accordingly, the conversations and learning processes will look deeply into the ways in which debt and extractivism feed off each other at the expense of the people and therefore seek recommendations to strengthen public debt management and improve mineral resources governance. Particular attention will be paid towards Resource Backed Loans (RBL) which connect extractives and debt management in often unaccountable and unsustainable ways.

#### Day 5 Stop the Bleeding Campaign

Day 5 will feature the Stop the Bleeding Campaign to address illicit financial flows and highlighting the Campaign's key messages, analysis of issues and popular demands. The Stop the Bleeding Campaign is a Pan-African campaign dedicated towards the fight against illicit financial flows from the extractives sector.

The Annual SADC People's Summit is the flagship regional gathering of Southern Africa People's Solidarity Network bringing together social movements, churches, unions, and all progressive forces each year to shadow and reflect the People's views to the Annual SADC Heads of State Summit. Also known as the 'Festival of the Poor', the SADC People's Summit is a critical point of convergence for those fighting on the side of the poor, marginalised and oppressed in the Region to align positions on shared priorities and organise collective action to promote social and economic justice..

The SADC People's Summit Week of Learning and Action running from the 23rd to the 27th of August is brought to you by the Southern Africa People's Solidarity Network in conjunction with Tax Justice Network Africa; AFRODAD; Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development and Malawi Economic Justice Network.

# **Tax Justice and Extractives**

AUG
23

#### 'A Re-Introduction to the SADC-EPA's

09h00-11h30

#### Organisations

Dav

Economic Justice Network

#### Key Note Speaker: Ms Keatlaretse Dintle

Join Meeting https://taxjusticeafrica-net.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_hi6ZDGd-SjepMJxdT8djMw

In this information-sharing session, the aim of our panel discussion will be to determine what events occurred since the implementation of the SADC Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) in 2018 and map the way forward for civil society's role in the EPA's.



Our keynote address is provided by Ms Keatlaretse Dintle, the SADC EPA Chief Technical Advisor, during our panel discussion with key civil society experts and activists.

### 23

AUG

#### **Growing Government Revenues from Mining**

1000-1200

Organisations Tax Justice Network Africa **Speakers:** Hon Major Alex (MP Malawi); Mtwalo Msoni (Action Aid); Pusetso Morapedi (BCPI); Ranga Mhazo

Live Stream https://www.hstv.co.zw/



This Webinar discusses the case for growing government revenue from mining in the SADC region, zeroing in on policy reforms, opportunities, challenges, and progress recorded. Key focus will be placed on beneficial ownership disclosure as a tool to promote shore up government revenue from mining by curbing corruption and illicit financial flows focusing on the SADC region. The discussion will be joined by Honourable Major Alex from Malawi whose interventions will focus on the role of Parliament as well as legislative and practice reforms to grow government revenue from mining, focusing on Malawi as a case study.

AUG **23** 

#### **Students Movement Dialogue Series**

1800 - 2000

Topic of the Day: State of the Youth in SADC Today

### Gender dimensions of Tax Injustice and Extractivism

#### AUG 74

#### **Gender Transformative Public Finance Management**

0900 - 1300

#### Organisations

Day

Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development; Rural Women's Assembly; WILSA: ZELA

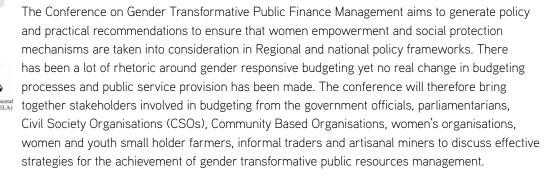
Speakers: Janet Zhou (ZIMCODD); Hon Priscilla Misihairambwi-Mushonga (Parliament of Zimbabwe); Hon Dr Jessie Kabwila (Parliament of Malawi); Fadzai Traquino (WILSA); Nyaradzo Mutonhori (ZELA);

Zoom contact: lynnete@zimcodd.co.zw Live Stream: https://www.hstv.co.zw/

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AUG 24

#### The Gendered dimensions of Illicit Financial Flows

1000 - 1200

#### Organisations

WILSA: Tax Justice Network Africa





Increasing women's voice and participation in extractive governance

Tax policies are not neutral; they can hinder or promote social equality and gender equality. Women and men experience the impacts of tax policies differently, because of their diverse and unequal positions in the workforce, as consumers, producers, asset owners, and as those responsible for the activities of the care economy in households and outside.

The session Objectives will focus on

Live Stream: https://www.hstv.co.zw/

1. Understand the basic concept of IFFs and highlight their disproportional gender impact, in relation to the drain in developing countries of critical resources, for the advancement of women's human rights.

2. Unveil the current legal and political frameworks that allow multinational corporations to benefit from tax abuse to the detriment of women and gender equality.

3. Understand various initiatives feminist groups campaigning IFFs - how might women participate in these?

4. Launch and disseminate relevant and applicable research studies

5. Provide recommendations, from a feminist perspective, on how to demand transparency and corporate accountability in order to curb illicit financial flows

## Gender dimensions of Tax Injustice and Extractivism

# AUG **24**

#### **Increasing Women's Voice and Participation in Extractive Governance**

1400 - 1530

#### Organisations

Day

Publish What You Pay



C Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_-DWOfNPHT6OMH2tottrjqQ

The launch of our new synthesis research report, "Increasing Women's Voice and Participation in Extractive Governance: The case of Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda".

The research aimed to unearth what data/information and reforms are needed to improve women's participation and power in decision-making around the allocation and use of extractive revenues, for the benefit of women, men and communities at the local level. It examined national and local governance frameworks; assessed national and local government capacity to comply with these frameworks; characterised the allocation and use of extractive revenue at a local level, including the projects and initiatives funded by that revenue. It also assessed women's participation in extractive revenue distribution and use was then synthesised to identify how women's participation is hindered; and recommended improvements and reforms.

The report will be launched during the 2021 Southern African Development Community (SADC) People's Summit which will take place between 17-27 August both virtually and in Lilongwe, Malawi under the theme: "Elevate Justice and Equality". The webinar will feature speakers from PWYP coalitions in Tanzania, Mozambique and Uganda as well as regional partners working on gender and extractives.

Interpretation will be available for Portuguese speakers

<sup>AUG</sup>

#### **Students Movement Dialogue Series**

1800 - 2000

Topic of the Day: Who is benefiting from SADC's natural resources and why?

### Journalists Masterclass on Reporting on Tax Justice, Debt and Extractivism in Southern Africa

#### AUG 24-26

Day

#### Increasing Women's Voice and Participation in Extractive Governance

#### **Alternative Times**

#### Organisations

Media Institute of Southern Africa



#### Moderator: Nigel Nyamutumbu

Interested Journalists: please email chido@misazim.co.zw for further information

The Journalists Masterclass is an interactive learning experience to strengthen Journalists' understanding and analytical capabilities on issues to do with tax justice, debt and extractivism in the Southern Africa region. The Masterclass is divided into 8 one-hour sessions comprising of:

- Session 1: An overview of Extractivism in Southern Africa
- Session 2: Investigative journalism in the face of extractivism
- Session 3: Why Southern Africa has struggled to stop the bleeding from illicit financial flows
- Session 4: Leveraging mineral wealth to mitigate the impacts of COVID 19 pandemic
- Session 5: The Debt question and why it matters
- Session 6: The gendered impacts of extractivism and why women bear the burden
- Session 7: Understanding the policy and governance architecture surrounding the extractive sector
- Session 8: Plenary discussion- Experience sharing and Recommendations



## Webinar on Child Marriage in the context of Covid-19

#### Organisations

Rozaria MemorialTrust

#### Moderator: RMT, IM Swedish and other partners

#### Join Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81381891900



Rozaria Memorial Trust engaged in a research on Covid-19 and child marriage in collaboration with IM Swedish Development partners (WOREC and NGOCC) in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi. It is evident that the rate of child marriage increased due to school closure and other country regulations. The webinar will focus on the experience sharing from other Sadc countries to protect girls from child marriage

### programme Week Of Learning and action!

Day

# Making mining work for the people of Southern Africa

# AUG 25

Organisations

#### **Alternative Mining Fiscal Regime in Southern Africa**

1000 - 1200

#### Live Stream: https://www.hstv.co.zw/

ZELA; Alternative Mining Indaba; Publish What You Pay Mozambique

PUBLISH WHAT



AUG

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Zinbabwe Environment Law Association (ZELA Regime in Southern Africa research report. Mounting evidence strongly indicates that a people driven approach to mining taxation is central to the achievement of optimal utilization of mineral resources for sustainable socio-economic development. However, several historical, structural and policy impediments inhibit the achievement of a just and equitable framework to guide mining taxation in the SADC Region. The Webinar will therefore provide an open platform for CSOs, governments, duty bearers and other relevant authorities in Southern Africa to consider what an alternative mining fiscal regime in Southern Africa looks like and the necessary measures required to establish such a regime.

The Webinar will reflect on the findings and recommendations of the Alternative Mining Fiscal

#### Towards an equal society, when tax justice becomes key

1400 - 1600

Organisations

Centre for Disability and Development

Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83835502047?pwd=czJ1bG5sdHY5WDJOWWx0dExnWkIBUT09 Meeting ID: 838 3550 2047 Passcode: 053867

The event seeks to explore the intersectionality between inequality, tax injustice and extractivism. This will be done using a disability lens, exploring how tax justice can be key to bringing equality to society.



Day

# Making mining work for the people of Southern Africa

Speakers: Boaventura Monjane; SMAIAS and 3 Authors

AUG

# We Rise for our Land: Land Struggles and Repression in Southern Africa Book Presentation

1500 - 1600

#### Organisations

Sam Moyo African Institute for Agrarian Studies (SMAIAS)

In recent years, southern Africa has aroused the interest of domestic and foreign investors targeting several sectors. Agrarian and extractive capital has been most penetrating in the countryside, causing land conflicts, displacement of local rural and peasant communities and, in worse cases, deaths. Neoliberally oriented, most SADC states have, by and large, colluded with local and international capital, often to the alienation and disfranchisement of the generality of peasants and citizens. The corollary of this has been the espousal of pieces of legislation and policy frameworks that are hostile to the peasantry while advancing the interests of capital. This session presents findings from various countries in the sub-region on the implications of land displacements with a view of empowering civil society organizations and small-producers to defend their land rights.

AUG 25

#### **Students Movement Dialogue Series**

#### 1800 - 2000

Topic of the Day: Why mining companies don't pay their fair share of taxes?

**Debt and Extractives nexus** 

AUG **26** 

#### **Understanding the Debt and Extractives nexus**

1000 - 1200

Organisations

Dav

AFRODAD, Oxfam

Speakers: Boaventura Monjane; SMAIAS and 3 Authors

Live Stream: https://www.hstv.co.zw/





The Webinar will look closely at the link between debt and extractives as epitomised in the resort to resources backed loans (RBL) in many Southern African countries. RBL have become an important feature of fiscal tension in several resources rich countries following the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic which started as a health problem and transformed into a fully blown economic problem. Despite huge mineral resources endowment, it is baffling to note that the continent is saddled with a debt burden which accounts for 57.8% of GDP as of 2020 (IMF 2020), this includes all the government debt which includes public and publicly guaranteed debt. External debt stood at 27.8 % of GDP. This negatively impacts social economic development and delays progress on the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. The African continent prides itself on its huge mineral endowments. The discovery of oil and gas and increased demand for minerals for clean energy such as copper and lithium further provide windows of opportunities. However, the securitization of loans using mineral resources may be problematic and poses risks given the challenges faced in debt management and the extractives sector. In trying to explore the relationship between debt and extractives, this session will showcase the various scenarios that link between extractives and debt management manifests itself in the African context. It will further highlight the implications of the linkage and proffer actionable recommendations on prudent debt management and improved mineral resources governance to ensure that the countries effectively achieve its desired development.

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# PROGRAMME Week Of Learning and action! Debt and Extractives nexus

# AUG **26**

#### Inequality and Extractives in the SADC Region

1400 -1600

#### Organisations

Fight Inequality Alliance

#### Speakers: Boaventura Monjane; SMAIAS and 3 Authors

Live Stream: https://www.hstv.co.zw/



The Fight Inequality Alliance seeks to facilitate a discussion on inequality and extractives in the SADC Region. The discussion will be held on the side-lines of the 2021 SADC People's Summit. The dialogue will facilitate experience sharing on the forms and manifestation of inequalities in mining host communities across the SADC region. The platform seeks to bring to the fore the various mining induced inequalities and injustices in these communities. The planned dialogue session seeks to proffer recommendations for the mining host communities to coalesce and share experiences in fighting inequalities and exclusionary mining policies and practices within their communities and also sharing adaptation and resilience strategies in situations where mining has failed to transform the communities social and economic wellbeing rather worsened their plight. This also includes advocacy towards mining policy change in the region for them to be propeople. The ultimate goal is strengthening citizens' voices in the struggle against mining related injustices and inequalities. The session will be held in form of dialogue. The conversation will be broadcasted live on Facebook and other digital platforms.

Roughly half of the world's vanadium, platinum, and diamonds originate in the region, along with 36% of gold and 20% of cobalt. Despite being endowed with different types of mineral resources, SADC regional countries' level of social and economic development is not commensurate to the region's resource richness. The majority of SADC countries have remained afflicted by deep-rooted poverty, inequality and deprivation particularly in host mining communities where citizens are not deriving meaningful benefit from resources being extracted but rather ecological debt, inequalities and abject poverty or what has been coined the "natural resource curse." Weak regulatory framework, poor oversight and accountability institutions, state capture are some of the factors that have created a fecund ground for illicit financial flows in the sector.

# <sup>AUG</sup>

#### **Students Movement Dialogue Series**

1800 - 2000

Topic of the Day: Why are resource induced conflicts on the rise in Southern Africa?

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## Stopping the bleeding from Illicit Financial Flows

aug **27** 

#### **Stop the Bleeding Solidarity Rally**

1100 - 1300

#### Organisations

Day

All participating movements and organisations

**Speakers:** All participating movements and organisations

Live Stream: https://www.hstv.co.zw/

The Week of Learning and Action will close with the Stop the Bleeding Solidarity Rally. This rally will be held as an open Platform to give voice to the people of Eswatini and Mozambique and other victims of the greed, violence and corruption spawned by tax injustice and extractivism in Southern Africa. The virtual rally will aim to raise popular awareness about the Stop the Bleeding Campaign, its aims and objectives as well as its relevance in the current moment for the SADC Region. Individuals and communities who have been impacted by extractivism and illicit financial flows around the Region will share their experiences and input into the collective way forward. Recommendations and way forward after the Week of Learning and Action will be discussed and adopted as part of the rally process.

AUG **27** 

#### **Students Movement Dialogue Series**

#### 1800 - 2000

Topic of the Day: How can we secure the future for young people in Southern Africa?

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# With many thanks to our Funding and Technical Partners

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#### @SapsnU @Southern African People's Solidarity Network

SAPSN is a membership-based network of national movements and people driven initiatives for social and economic justice in the SADC region. The Malawi Economic Justice Network is the host organisation for the Lilongwe SADC People's Summit proudly supported by the Malawi Taskforce of CSOs, Churches and Unions. Tax Justice Network Africa spearheads the virtual Week of Learning and Action to focus attention on Tax Justice and Extractivism in Southern Africa. The Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development is the host Institution of the SAPSN Secretariat.





#### www.sapsn.net



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