

SADC, its history, its vision



In the picture, SADC founding Leaders

In 1980, the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) was formed in Lusaka, Zambia as a loose coalition of nine majority-ruled Southern African States with the primary goal of coordinating development projects to reduce reliance on the then-apartheid South Africa.

The founding member States were Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

On August 17, 1992, the organization was transformed from a Coordinating Conference to a Development Community (SADC) in Windhoek, Namibia with a focus on the integration of economic development. Through regional integration, SADC seeks to accomplish development and economic progress, reduce poverty, raise standards and quality of life for Southern Africans, and assist the underprivileged.

The objective of SADC is to achieve development and economic growth, alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life for Southern Africa people and support the socially disadvantaged through regional integration.

For SADC, increased regional integration based on democratic values and equitable, sustainable development are the key to achieving these goals.

RISDP 2020-30

The journey towards the attainment of SADC's Vision, Mission, and Common Agenda demanded periodic reviews of regional strategic plans,

including the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defence, and Security Cooperation (SIPO).

The RISDP was created during the SADC Extraordinary Summit, which took place in March 2001 in Windhoek, Namibia. Since 2005, it has served as a comprehensive development and implementation framework for the integration agenda. RISDP 2020-2030 is a 10-year strategic plan that represents an ambitious attempt to lay out how SADC can best move towards the Vision 2050 over the next 10 years.

Vision 2050

The Vision 2050 is grounded in SADC's original Vision of "a common future, a future in a regional community that will ensure economic wellbeing, improvement of the standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice and peace and security for the peoples of Southern Africa".

SADC Vision 2050 is expressed in three pillars namely;

- Industrial Development and Market Integration,
- Infrastructure Development in Support of Regional Integration,
- and Social and Human Capital Development.

These three pillars should be built on a firm foundation of Peace, Security, and Good Governance. By 2050, SADC member states envision a peaceful, inclusive, competitive, middle- to high-income industrialised region, where all citizens enjoy sustainable economic well-being, justice and freedom.



Kazungula bridge connecting Zambia and Botswana

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ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The purpose of a newsletter is to provide specialized information to our audience, about highlight news and activities being undertaken by SADC

Project launched to strengthen CSO capacity

CUTS and the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa have launched a 17-month project dubbed "Engagement for Results: Captivating Regional Civil Society Organizations and their networks to effectively participate in the SADC Regional Integration process" with the goal of enhancing the ability of regional CSOs to effectively engage key stakeholders.

The project funded by the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), is a component of the SADC Secretariat's Integrated Institutional Capacity-Building (IICB), being implemented in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

further, the project aims at enhancing the role and efficacy of regional CSOs and their networks to effectively document, disseminate and communicate progress on regional integration agenda to the public and other stakeholders.

This will result in an effective contribution to the achievement of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2020-2030) and the Vision 2050.

As part of the project activities, CUTS has mobilized and engaged media houses and their representatives in SADC regional integration to bring their voices together and find ways to enhance their capacities.



CSO members pose for the picture

CSO mapping assessment on SADC launched

A Civil Society Organization (CSO) mapping study has been commissioned by CUTS International Lusaka and the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGCA) to provide baseline data on the potential role of civil society, their functional capacity challenges, and opportunities towards the regional integration processes. The study funded by the SADC secretariat was carried out in Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

The mapping study is part of the SADC project dubbed "Engagement for Results: Capacitating Regional Civil Society Organisations and their networks to effectively participate in the SADC regional integration process," is part of the critical analysis to provide understanding of the context, level and structures of engagement, avenues and tools, capacity gaps as well as functional challenges

In all the four countries, majority of CSOs that participated in the mapping study are operating at national level and the smallest proportion at regional and international levels. Over 50 percent of the CSOs were found to have relevant affiliations with networks relevant for driving SADC regional integration agenda in the study countries.

60.2 % of the CSOs have been involved in activities related to SADC regional integration. They, however, underscored that they lack institutional and technical capacity to actively influence the government, SADC secretariat, other policy making organs, undertake consultations and policy review and access to use and reuse public information for evidenced based advocacy.

The CSOs targeted for the mapping exercise were mainly those interested and/or engaged in SADC regional processes. About 47 percent of the CSOs interviewed were engaged in SADC regional integration process. And the principal modalities of engagement between SADC and CSOs were at the governance level and policy formulation, and programme operations.

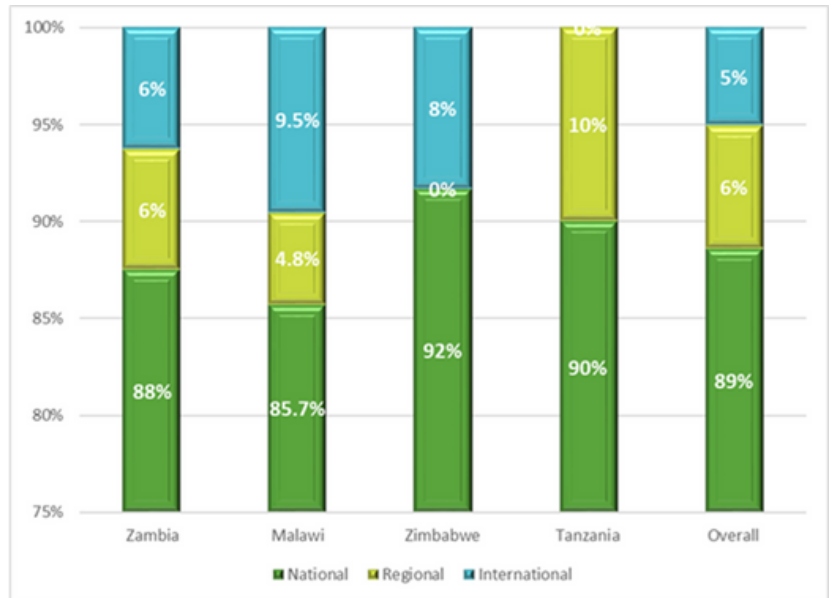
Though over three-quarters of the CSOs were employing advocacy campaigns, policy dialogues and media publications in engaging with other stakeholder, more than half of CSOs indicated they were not aware of any structure engaging Civil Society in the SADC integration processes. Lack of formalised SADC structures and dedicated support constraints effective engagement of CSOs at national and regional level.

To foster CSO engagement, the following were some of the recommendations from the study.

Approve and operationalise the formal non-State actors' platforms. Functionalise the SADC National Committees Establish a working modality with Umbrella and Apex bodies by SADC. Conduct gap-oriented capacity development plan and hastened implementation.

Define national CSO advocacy plan at national level for follow up of the SADC regional integration processes.

Source - CUTS & SDGCA Primary data, (2022)



Classification of Civil Society Organisations in Target countries

SADC executive secretary pays courtesy call on president HH

In order to advance the integration, cooperation, and development of the SADC region, on June 17, 2022, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Executive Secretary Mr. Elias M. Magosi met Zambia's President Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, at State House in Lusaka.

The courtesy call is a part of the SADC Executive Secretary's plan to meet with the region's heads of state and government, introduce himself, and discuss sustainable strategies for advancing regional integration, achieving peace and security, as well as to solicit advice and direction from them.

Mr Magosi highlighted that, among his priorities during his tenure was to unblock the bottlenecks which slowed regional integration, industrialisation and easy access to markets in the region. "A lot of work has been done to put in place very good Protocols and legal instruments to facilitate deeper regional integration and to ensure that the region achieves its purpose, but the region has gaps which affect our pace of implementation on what has been agreed," He said.



SADC Executive Secretary Mr. Elias M. Magosi during the meeting with Zambia's President Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, at State House in Lusaka, Zambia.

He also stated that a number of the SADC Protocols are not yet in force as they are yet to be acceded to, or ratified by the two-third majority, and that he has started to engage Member States to support them in their processes to ensure that the Protocols become operational.

Welcoming the SADC Executive Secretary, President Hichilema assured him of Zambia's support to expedite regional integration in the Community.

"Zambia is a committed member of SADC and be assured that the Republic

of Zambia will support you on this fantastic agenda and approach," Mr Hichilema told the SADC Executive Secretary.

During the meeting, H.E. Mr. Hichilema, who was accompanied by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Stanley K. Kakubo and senior officials from the Zambian Government, highlighted that the socio economic challenges facing the citizens of the SADC region called for enhanced regional cooperation, integration and industrialisation

-Source SADC

SADC team visits CUTS Lusaka

From July 19 to July 22, 2022, the SADC project team traveled to Lusaka, Zambia to talk about the project's strategies, risk management, and results management. The four-man SADC delegation included programme coordinator Mr. Wazha Omphile, Finance Officer Mr. Euclid Mtonga, Assistant Finance Officer Mr. Monametsi Pheko and Procurement Officer mercy Mikuwa.



Former CUTS coordinator Dr. Claudia Pollen and CUTS board member Mr. Sajeev Nair, welcomed the team.



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