



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# USAID STRATEGIC ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS – ZIMBABWE (SERA) PROGRAM

## QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

### PROGRAM QUARTER 15:

APRIL-JUNE 2015

CONTRACT NO. AID-613-C-11-00001



This report was produced by Nathan Associates Inc. for review by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

# USAID STRATEGIC ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS – ZIMBABWE (SERA) PROGRAM

## QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT PROGRAM QUARTER 15:

### APRIL-JUNE 2015

**CONTRACT NO. AID-613-C-11-00001**

**Program Title:** USAID Strategic Economic Research & Analysis – Zimbabwe (SERA)  
**Sponsoring USAID Office:** USAID/Zimbabwe  
**Contract Number:** AID-613-C-11-00001  
**Contractor:** Nathan Associates Inc.  
**Date of Publication:** July 30, 2015  
**Author:** Daniel B. Ndlela, SERA Chief of Party  
and Emmanuella Matorofa, SERA M&E/Training Coordinator

**Cover Photo:** Mr. Nebson Mupunga, RBZ, receives a PhD in Economics from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, April 2015

#### **DISCLAIMER**

This document is made possible by the support of the American people through USAID. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the author or authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government.

# CONTENTS

<b>ACRONYM LIST .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>SERA HIGHLIGHTS – PROGRAM QUARTER 15 .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Management and Administration of Operations .....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>VAT Refunds .....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Reports .....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Technical Management.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<b>3. TECHNICAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE TO ZEPARU .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Research and Analysis .....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Training Parliamentarians.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Training of Economists (short-term).....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Training of Economists (long-term).....</i>	<i>7</i>
<b>4. TECHNICAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE TO OTHER PARTIES.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>Mining Revenue Transparency .....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Pension Industry Reform .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Starting a Business .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Results Based Budgeting .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Transactional Corruption in Business Survey.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Maize Pricing Study.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Parliamentary Training.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Wage Structure Study .....</i>	<i>11</i>
<b>5. TECHNICAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE TO ZIMSTAT .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Support for the Survey of Services (SS):.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Support for ZIMSTAT Website Development:.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<b>6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<i>Coordination with other USAID programs.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Poverty .....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Gender.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<b>7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PLAN.....</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>8. SERA PROGRAM CHALLENGES .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>9. PLANNING FOR THE NEXT QUARTER.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<i>Assistance to Private Sector and Civil Society Organizations .....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Assistance to the GOZ .....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Assistance to ZEPARU.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Assistance to ZIMSTAT .....</i>	<i>16</i>
<b>10. PERFORMANCE MONITORING.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>ANNEX 1. IMPLEMENTATION OF Y4 WORK PLAN – STATUS AT END OF QUARTER 14 * .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ANNEX 2: PERFORMANCE MONITORING INDICATORS.....</b>	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

## ACRONYM LIST

ACBF	African Capacity Building Foundation
AfDB	African Development Bank
BMO	Business Membership Organisation
CBR	Central Business Register
CHRA	Combined Harare Ratepayers Association
CIPE	Center for International Private Enterprise
COP	Chief of Party
COTR/COR	Contracting Officer's Technical Representative/ Contracting Officer's Representative
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CZI	Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries
DCP	Development Cooperating Partner
DFID	Department for International Development
DSGE	Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium model
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOZ	Government of Zimbabwe
HCC	Harare City Council
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPEC	Insurance and Pensions Commission
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEFMI	Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute
MIC	Ministry of Industry and Commerce
MOFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MOHCC	Ministry of Health and Child Care
MOPSE	Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NECF	National Economic Consultative Forum
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIPC	National Incomes and Price Commission
NMMU	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
NSA	Non State Actors
PICES	Poverty, Income and Consumption Expenditure survey
PFM	Public Finance Management
PPRIZ	Public Policy Research Institute of Zimbabwe
POZ	Parliament of Zimbabwe
QPR	Quarterly Performance Report
RBB	Results Based Budgeting

RBZ	Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe
RFP	Request for Proposal
SAPST	Southern African Parliamentary Support Trust
SERA	Strategic Economic Research and Analysis
SMEAZ	Small Enterprises Association of Zimbabwe
SOW	Scope of Work
SS	Survey of Services
STTA	Short-Term Technical Assistance
TIPS	Trade and Industry Policy Studies
TL	Technical Lead
TWG	Technical Working Group
UCT	University of Cape Town
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UP	University of Pretoria
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UZ	University of Zimbabwe
VAT	Value Added Tax
WB	World Bank
ZARNet	ZIMBABWE Academic and Research Network
ZELA	Zimbabwe Environment and Law Association
ZEPARU	Zimbabwe Economic Policy Analysis and Research Unit
ZIA	Zimbabwe Investment Authority
ZIMACP	Zimbabwe Agricultural Competitiveness Program
ZIMRA	Zimbabwe Revenue Authority
ZIMSTAT	Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency
ZNCC	Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce
ZURA	Zimbabwe United Ratepayers Association

# SERA HIGHLIGHTS – PROGRAM QUARTER 15

## Assistance to Key Partners

**Maize Marketing and Pricing Study:** SERA completed the ‘Maize Marketing and Pricing in Zimbabwe’ study focusing on maize price setting and macroeconomic and price stability, food security, and the viability of the local grain industry. Maize, as the country’s staple food, not only affects the incomes of the growers but impacts the consumption levels of the rural and urban poor, who are net purchasers of the commodity. The final Report of the study was delivered during Q15, and the planned stakeholder workshop will be held in the next quarter to disseminate its findings.

**Mining Revenue Mapping Study:** The SERA-funded study on Mining Revenue Mapping was completed during Q15, and a stakeholder workshop is scheduled for early Q16. The study seeks to illuminate economic effects at various stages in the mining cycle and identify the data/information that stakeholders can expect in their attempts to understand the industry for purposes of investment, regulation, taxation, or community benefit extraction. Providing this information to stakeholders will lead to not only a better understanding of mining sector, but potentially improve the sector’s governance by matching expectations between stakeholders. The study also provides important information which is expected to result in better partnerships for improved policymaking, consequently acting as an important tool to strengthen transparency and accountability in the mining sector through empowering the public sector, private sector, parliament, and civil society with the requisite information to meaningfully engage on mineral governance in Zimbabwe.

**Starting a Business Study:** During Q15, SERA continued to follow-up activities to the Starting a Business study; namely the Business Regulatory System reform and the Municipal Licensing System reform.

- **Business Registration:** SERA has actively pursued the following activities enhancing business registration during the quarter: (i) A high level Study Tour to New Zealand to review their business registration system, which was originally recommended by the Stakeholder Validation Workshop in Q14; (ii) A Stakeholder Workshop to consider findings of the New Zealand Study Tour and come up with concrete reform measures to be implemented; and (iii) Support to design a new web-based system for business registration and reporting, and up-loading this onto the Government’s existing e-governance platform. While the request for approval of the trip to New Zealand was received during the quarter, the tour is now expected to take place around mid-September 2015.
- **Municipal Licensing:** Following from the observations of the ‘Starting A Business’ study, that more than 60% of bottlenecks of doing business in Zimbabwe are accounted for by the bureaucratic municipal business licensing system, SERA funded a Consultant to do a mapping of all the municipality business licenses so as to guide appropriate interventions to improve the system. Once the mapping study is completed, a Stakeholder Workshop will be held early in the next quarter. Non State Actors (NSA) such as the Combined Harare Rate Payers Association (CHRA), and the Zimbabwe United Ratepayers Association (ZURA), are expected to participate in this exercise given their active involvement in local authority governance oversight. The results of the mapping exercise are expected in early Q16.

**Transactional Corruption in Business Survey:** During the quarter under review significant progress was registered towards commissioning the “Transactional Corruption Survey”. The Survey which is being implemented by the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), and a local research company, Q-

Partnership is being undertaken with the participation of the three major Business Membership Organizations (BMOs), CZI, ZNCC and SMEAZ. The Survey seeks to provide an assessment of how corruption manifests itself in the private sector focusing on such aspects in the environment that allows it to thrive and its overall impact on business viability. The Survey also examines specific areas where opaque terms, duplicate regulations, lack of access to information or too much discretionary power given to a public sector agency or service provider, lends to opportunities and instances of transactional corruption.

**Parliamentary Training and Capacity Business:** During the quarter under review, SERA engaged the Clerk of Parliament to explore the possibilities of commissioning the Economic Literacy Toolkit, initially targeting the Chairpersons of Parliamentary Portfolio Committees, given their leadership role in the Business of the House and the Joint Budget and Public Accounts Committee, as pilot Sessions ahead of rolling the capacity building to all Committees. Parliament has welcomed this initiative, and is targeting the commissioning of the Toolkit during current sitting of the House to ease possible logistical bottlenecks. In addition, Parliament has requested that all policy related studies supported by USAID-SERA during its tenure be shared with Portfolio Committees to strengthen their economic policy related engagement of the executive during Plenary Debate to assert stronger public policy oversight in Zimbabwe.

**Wage Structure Study:** There has been considerable recent debate in Zimbabwe around perceptions that labor costs are too high, the existing structure of wages and salaries in the public and private sectors are inequitable and not justified by productivity rates, and that the wage setting mechanisms do not contribute to efficiency and/or competitiveness. Therefore, SERA developed a Concept Note and floated a public Request for Proposals (RFP) to reputable local research organizations. The winning bidder will be contracted to prepare a research proposal /paper on Zimbabwe's wage structure and its impact on labor costs, both in the public and private sectors, with a view to understanding the constraints it places on the macroeconomic capability of the Government to support sustainable development, and the ability of the economy to remain competitive. The solicited Study is expected to consider the impact of labor laws, labor market flexibility, wage setting mechanisms, and the regulations and corporate governance standards underlying the determination of wage and management salaries in the public and private sectors. The National Economic Consultative Forum (NECF), a public/private think tank has expressed interest in providing a national platform for enhancing the national dialogue on these issues.

**Pension Reform:** During the period under review SERA has been engaging stakeholders to initiate a study, on the Pensions Industry in Zimbabwe. This follows consultations with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED) and the Insurance and Pensions Commission (IPEC), and the Government coming under pressure from the public to review the sector's regulatory framework. Stakeholders have also been long concerned about the weakness of corporate governance and oversight of the public pension system. The objective of the Study is to expand evidence-based research that will inform appropriate policy reform in the Non-Bank Financial Sector covering pensions and insurance. This follows successfully executing financial sector studies in the past two years that have recommended the need to also broaden the coverage of research to include the Non-Banking sector, a key variable in the mobilisation of national savings and long-term investment capital. The pensions sector complements the banking sector in the provision of liquidity in the economy, and unlike the later it provides stable long-term capital crucial for strategic investments such as physical infrastructure that anchor private growth and hence economic development. Towards the end of Q15, the Ministry of Finance formally requested SERA funding to commission the study. The study is envisaged to commence during Q16.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The USAID Strategic Economic Research and Analysis — Zimbabwe (SERA) Program contract took effect on October 1, 2011, with Nathan Associates Inc. (hereinafter “Nathan”) as the prime implementing partner, for a performance period of four years. USAID developed the SERA Program in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED) with three **Strategic Objectives**, which may be summarized as follows:

1. Improved economic environment for inclusive growth through evidence-based policy analysis and research.
2. Strengthened capacity for policy development institutions.
3. Improved economic data for use by researchers, policy makers, and other stakeholders.

To achieve these objectives, the program is structured to produce four major results:

1. Improved human capacity for evidence-based economic policy analysis and policy management.
2. Strengthened institutional capacity in Government Departments for analyzing, adapting and implementing evidence-based economic policy options.
3. Strengthened research institutions providing analytical support to the economic policy process in response to needs of policy makers.
4. Improved quality, timeliness, and availability of economic data and statistics.

To produce these results the SERA contract specifies the following services and tasks:

1. Management and Administrative Services for assistance to a range of Government of Zimbabwe ministries, agencies, and civil society organizations, including, among other things, provision of short- and long-term technical advisors, research and training.
2. Technical Services for implementation of a demand-driven agenda to support the twin foci of policy reform and capacity development to a variety of stakeholders, including:
  - a. Assistance to the Public, Private and Civil Society Organizations on
    - i. Policy Research and Analysis
    - ii. Parliamentary Training
    - iii. Training of Economists (short-term and long-term)
    - iv. Workshops (research dissemination and policy dialogue events).
  - b. Assistance to ZIMSTAT

Our mandate is to deliver demand-driven support to strengthen human and institutional capacity for partner organizations; provide evidence-based research to the government in areas of vital policy concern; rebuild the statistical foundations for economic studies and policy management; and create platforms for research dissemination and public discussion of research findings, as a bridge from technical analysis to effective reform. Nathan has been pursuing these aims primarily by providing technical and financial support to a wide variety of agencies on one hand, and ZIMSTAT on the other as our principal partner organizations. However, the SERA Program has been, and continues to seek new partners with which to coordinate to deliver technical assistance in support of positive reform, including engaging with public, private and civil society organizations on various policy studies highlighted above.

The present Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) covers SERA Program Quarter 15, April-June, 2015. The report discusses progress on each of the Services and Tasks cited above, challenges faced, and plans for the next quarter. **Annex 1** provides the latest update of the Performance Monitoring Indicators from our revised Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, as approved by USAID in October 2014.

## 2. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

For this first program component, activity during the reporting period focused on management and administration of operations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements.

### Management and Administration of Operations

The project's recurrent tasks, such as maintenance of accounts and records proceeded as normal by completing timely payment of wages and payroll, filing taxes, managing equipment inventory, and ensuring compliance with USAID regulations on procurements and activities. Nathan headquarters continued to provide efficient backstopping in the areas of contract administration, recruitment of consultants, financial management, and reporting.

The project continues to place high priority on maintaining full and open communications with USAID/Zimbabwe. SERA continued to hold regular weekly meetings with USAID's Contracting Officer's Representative (COR), to discuss all aspects of program implementation. These activities have continued as normal despite the departure of Mr. Joshua Smith as the program, being temporarily replaced by Bigbouy Chikwavarara (Program Management Specialist) until a full-time replacement arrives in the next quarter. The regular meetings were attended by the SERA Chief of Party (COP), the Senior Program Advisor, and the Senior Economist. For logistical and technical issues requiring greater input from Nathan's home office, Nathan's Program Director, Peter Miller, joined our meetings via Skype.

In managing the project SERA also collaborates heavily with its key stakeholders, which have expanded to include a number of Zimbabwean organizations, such as ZEPARU, ZELA, and ZIA from past program activities, and now the Business Management Organizations, ZNCC, CZI, and SMEAZ from new activities. ZIMSTAT and ZEPARU also remain important stakeholders with key inputs to project management. Tasks include developing and supervising STTA assignments, training events, equipment procurements, and workshops. The program also continued to jointly fund collaborative activities with the World Bank which requires coordination with their technical teams in country. These activities are captured in technical sections below (see Technical Services sections 3, 4 and 5 for Assistance to Key Partners, and ZIMSTAT) and the agenda of activities that are under development for the following quarter (see section 9: Planning for the next Quarter).

### VAT Refunds

During Q15, the SERA program received \$515.50 in VAT refunds from the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA). As of the end of Q15 the total refund received is \$22,396.27 out of a total claim of \$49,985.36 leaving \$27,589.09 in refund claims outstanding through June 2015. The SERA Program Manager will continue to communicate with USAID's controller's office to facilitate the recovery of VAT paid by Nathan.

### Reports

During Quarter 15, Nathan Associates complied with all periodic reporting requirements, including submitting financial and accrual reports. The program has also submitted periodic “weekly bullets” on program highlights as warranted by activities.

## Technical Management

COP Dr. Daniel Ndlela continues to provide technical and management oversight for the program, while Senior Advisor Ashok Chakravarti and the new SERA Program Senior Economist Rongai Chizema began to divide technical responsibilities as follows:

### ***Ashok Chakravarti***

- Mining Information Mapping Study
- Grain Marketing and Pricing study
- Wage Structure Diagnostic Study
- Survey of Transactional Corruption
- Business Registration Reform System

### ***Rongai Chizema***

- Pension Industry Study
- Parliamentary Training and Capacity Building
- Municipal Licensing System

Mr. Chizema also provides valuable technical assistance and local expertise on a number of work streams. The two TLs have provided valuable day-to-day support for follow-up on programmatic issues and stakeholder liaisons at the COP’s direction.

The COP retains technical lead in the remaining work streams, namely:

- RBZ Financial Programming and Policies and Phase 1 of the Macroeconomic Model of Zimbabwe Project co-sponsored with MEFMI
- Results Based Budgeting for the MOFED co-sponsored with the World Bank
- The remaining ZIMSTAT work-streams, to be discussed below.

Ms. Emmanuella Matorofa continued to provide substantial technical assistance to ZEPARU as the program’s Training/M&E Coordinator and also began to take responsibility more active lead on technical work streams. This has included overseeing consultant assignments to support ZIMSTAT and coordinating the ZIMSTAT website inputs between ZARNet, the company responsible for building the website and training ZIMSTAT staff. Nathan’s Home Office Program Director for SERA, Peter Miller continues to provide management support to the field office and to coordinate Nathan’s Contracts and Finance support team for SERA. Mr. Miller conducted a field visit for 6 days at the beginning of June 2015 to conduct an annual review of program activities and assure quality control against Nathan Associates’ corporate best practices.

Ms. Evidence Ndari, SERA’s Training Coordinator who was on maternity leave from January resumed her duties on June 15, 2015. To coordinate SERA’s training activities during the time Ms. Ndari was on maternity leave, was Wellington Matsika who ably served as SERA’s acting Training Coordinator at ZEPARU during Ms. Ndari’s absence. Wellington managed training activities, workshops, and research dissemination events, especially those supported by SERA.

### 3. TECHNICAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE TO ZEPARU

This section reviews SERA support to ZEPARU during Quarter 15 under four sub-components: research and analysis; training for Parliamentarians; training of economists (short term and long term); and workshops and other research dissemination events.

SERA's support this quarter continued the strategic shift towards providing more technical assistance towards affecting current policy reforms while continuing to pursue some high value training activities. SERA's COP and ZEPARU's Executive Director continue to meet regularly to address technical and logistical aspects of assistance to ZEPARU, including strategic assistance, implementation arrangements, and program monitoring.

#### Research and Analysis

Under this workstream the SERA Program continued to monitor website use and public information dissemination of previously funded research products.

**Cost Drivers Study:** the program funded printing the 'Cost Drivers Analysis of Zimbabwe Study' to more broadly disburse the study's findings and promote continued policy reform based on the study's findings. Previously, the 'Cost Drivers Analysis of Zimbabwe Study' had been posted to the ZEPARU website, and circulated through email alerts, from which it was found to have high value. Therefore, SERA funded its printing during Q15 to reach a broader audience. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC) also began the implementation of one of the study's major recommendations by holding stakeholders consultations on National Competitiveness Commission Legislation. A stakeholder workshop was launched during the quarter to amend the National Incomes and Price Commission (NIPC), and transform it from a price monitoring and regulatory authority into the National Competitiveness Commission. The SERA Team has actively supported the review of the proposed Bill in order to ensure that it not only adequately addresses the competitiveness agenda but that price setting in Zimbabwe lives up to the principles of transparency and accountability and thereby promote good economic governance among both public and private institutions.

**Sustainability Study:** The program continued discussions with U.S. economic think tanks to arrange a study tour for ZEPARU's Executive Director to visit these organizations. The Executive Director of the Public Policy Research Institute of Zimbabwe (PPRIZ) was also added as another tour participant. SERA collaborated with both ZEPARU and PPRIZ to identify key anticipated outcomes of the trip, and have been coordinating with SERA's former COP, Bruce Bolnick and selected think tanks in the U.S. to develop a program of visits during Q15 to build organizational knowledge of international best practices. By the end of the quarter under review, Dr. Bolnick had reached agreements with two institutions: Urban Institute - International Center and Brookings – Africa Program, and three other institutions were pending, namely: Center for Global Development, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The purpose of the trip would be for the Executive Directors to see how a successful public policy research organization is run by international best practice, and to get ideas about how to strengthen their own organizations in terms of research quality and policy advocacy. The trip will also serve as a platform for strengthening how to dialogue among stakeholders in Government on one hand, and the private sector and non-state actors on the other. This effort was one of the primary recommendations of SERA's prior Sustainability Study.

**Website development and Public information:** SERA saw results from the COP continuing to work with ZEPARU's outreach officer to update the organization's email list to improve its dissemination of data

and analysis, as the 'Cost Drivers Analysis of Zimbabwe Study' was uploaded to the website prior to its printing.

SERA further continued funding three ZEPARU interns with masters' degrees in economics, to assist with ZEPARU's research and analysis activities, which will continue through September 2015.

## Training Parliamentarians

SERA engaged the Parliament of Zimbabwe (POZ) through the Clerk of Parliament during the Quarter under review to consider delivering Sessions on Economic Literacy among other areas of mutual programming interest was acceded to, paving way for the hosting of capacity building during sessions Q16. The program would utilize SERA's previously published Economic Literacy Handbook as a strategic resource to enhance the capacity of MPs to provide an effective budgetary oversight and facilitate meaningful engagement of the Executive on economic governance to promote transparency and accountability in the public sector. The Economic Literacy Training Sessions will initially target the chairpersons of Parliamentary Portfolio Committees, followed by the Joint Committee of the Budget/Finance and Public Accounts, beyond which roll-out to the rest of the Parliament will be done. SERA will continue collaborate with the ZEPARU, SAPST and other partners to facilitate the training.

## Training of Economists (short-term)

SERA, together with the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) and the Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa (MEFMI), initiated planning the second phase of the program on Financial Programming and Policies. A second in-country training course has been scheduled to be undertaken from 21-25 September 2015 at the Kadoma Hotel and Conference Center. The workshop will continue efforts to develop a customized Financial Programming & Policies model for Zimbabwe to assist in macroeconomic policy formulation, analysis and forecasting. Following the second phase of FPP to be undertaken during the next quarter SERA will continue through the end of the program to work with MEFMI on constructing a Baseline Scenario, using the financial program to construct policy scenarios, and using the financial program to construct a Flow of Funds statement and for policy analysis and simulations.

SERA also laid plans with the RBZ for the in country training workshops on Macroeconomic Modeling for Zimbabwe which first phase will kick in October 2015, subject to approval of the Program's extension. Like in the case of the FPP, the Macroeconomic Modeling training workshop will be co-funded with MEFMI, with the latter providing the faculty and SERA sponsoring the event. These training workshops are consistent with USAID-SERA Program's focus on in-country training activities that are tailor-made to meet the country's specific needs and accommodate higher numbers of participants.

## Training of Economists (long-term)

### ***M.Sc. Bursary***

SERA continued funding long-term training of economists through the ZEPARU Economic Scholars Program, and all 11 government economists pursuing the part-time M.Sc. program in Economics at the University of Zimbabwe are on track to complete the program. Of the 11 students, 8 are in their third and final year and are expected to complete their studies during Q16 in 2015, 3 are in their second year and expected to complete their studies in 2016.

## **Ph.D. Bursary**

Dr. Nebson Mupunga, a Principal Economist and Deputy Division Chief of the Economic Research Division of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, formally received his Ph.D. for having successfully completed the Ph.D. program in Economics at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) the previous quarter.

The USAID SERA program continues to fund two other ZEPARU Ph.D. scholars, who are also RBZ economists namely:

### **Mr. Prudence Stephen Moyo**

Position: Senior Economist, Economic Research Division, RBZ

Program: M.Phil. /Ph.D. in Economics

University: University of Pretoria

Dissertation: Macroeconomic Dynamics and Stability in a dollarized economy: A case for Zimbabwe.

Mr. Moyo continued working towards his degree this quarter by regularly meeting with his advisor to discuss his thesis. He also requested SERA funding to attend a 3-day Biennial Conference of the Economic Society of South Africa, scheduled for 2-4 September 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa where he is expected to present his paper "Optimal Fiscal Policy in a Dollarized Economy".

### **Mr. William Kavila**

Position: Chief Economist, Economic Research & Policy Enhancement Division, RBZ

Program: PhD in Economics

University: Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU), Port Elizabeth

Dissertation: "A Dynamic Analysis of the Role of Monetary Policy in Zimbabwe under Periods of Hyperinflation and Dollarization".

Mr. Kavila has currently completed 6 of 8 thesis chapters, and during the quarter, the SERA Program provided funds for him to travel to NMMU to meet his supervisor to get guidance on his thesis.

## **4. TECHNICAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE TO OTHER PARTIES**

### **Mining Revenue Transparency**

SERA initiated a Study to consider the mapping of the existing information available to different mining stakeholders, for which the final report was completed during this quarter and a stakeholder workshop will be held during Q16. The study was undertaken by two local consultants from Zimbabwe Environmental Lawyers Association (ZELA) under SERA funding. It is envisaged that this activity will yield useful information for all stakeholders, Government, Private Sector, the Public and Civil Society. The Study seeks to bridge the knowledge gap by carrying out an Information Mapping exercise that will clarify the various stages in the mining cycle and identify the deliverable data/information that stakeholders can expect in their quest to understand the industry for purposes of investment, regulation, taxation, or community benefit extraction. The availability of the information to all stakeholders will lead to not only a better understanding of mining, but also a corresponding rationalization and matching of expectations between stakeholders.

It is expected that the study will also provide important information which will result in better understanding and partnerships for better policymaking. It is therefore, an important tool towards strengthening transparency, and accountability in the mining sector through empowering the public

sector, private sector, parliament and civil society with the requisite information to meaningfully engage on mineral governance in Zimbabwe.

## Pension Industry Reform

SERA consulted with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED) and the Insurance and Pensions Commission (IPEC) to plan a study on the Pensions Industry in Zimbabwe. MOFED and IPEC have confirmed keen interest on such a study and its potential impact on improving the regulatory and governance framework governing this strategic sector. The objective of the proposed Pension Industry Study is to expand evidence-based research that will inform appropriate policy reform in the Non-Bank Financial sector covering pensions and insurance. This follows a successful execution of financial sector studies in the past two years that have recommended the need to also broaden the coverage of research to include the Non-Banking sector, a key variable in the mobilisation of national savings and long-term investment capital.

The pensions sector complements the banking sector in the provision of liquidity in the economy, and unlike the latter it provides stable long-term capital crucial for strategic investments such as physical infrastructure that anchor private growth and hence economic development. The MOFED is currently considering Draft SOW that we have generated to pave the way for formal mobilisation of technical capacity and eventually rollout of the Study. We envisage the Study to be undertaken during Q15.

## Starting a Business

SERA began follow-on activities supporting the recommendations its study “**On the Brink of Break-Through: Starting a Business in Zimbabwe.**” These activities are currently engaging key stakeholders to further examine the potential for regulatory reform in registering companies and municipal licensing. SERA has been involved in discussions with the Registrar of Companies and with the City of Harare to develop reform activities related to upgrading the process and systems for business registration, and for business licensing in Harare respectively.

### ***Business Registration***

High level discussions were held with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice to agree upon a Program of activities which would lead to the reform of the business registration system. The following activities requiring SERA support were agreed upon:

- High level Study Tour to New Zealand to review their business registration system. This was proposed as New Zealand has one of the best systems in the world.
- Stakeholder Workshop to consider findings of the New Zealand Study Tour and come up with concrete reform measures to be implemented.
- Support to design a new web-based system for business registration and reporting, and uploading this onto the Governments existing e-governance platform.

During Q15, the nominations from government for the study tour were received and contact established with the Registrar of Companies in New Zealand. A Draft Program for the trip was under discussion and a tentative timing for the Study Tour around mid-September 2015 was being considered following recent consultations with the New Zealand Registrar of Companies.

### ***Municipal Licensing:***

Following observations from the “**Starting A Business Study**”, that revealed that more than 60% of bottlenecks of doing business in Zimbabwe are accounted for by the bureaucratic municipal business

licensing system, SERA has initiated a Business License Mapping exercise with the Harare City Council (HCC). This mapping exercise will inform the specific reforms to be undertaken on the current business licensing system to improve the doing business environment in the country. Some elements of the reforms will include streamlining of the license issuing process, as well as the review and rationalisation of the system to improve efficiency, and revenue collection.

As part of processes towards securing full buy-in from the Harare City Council, SERA, and ZIA met the Town Clerk and Senior Executives of the HCC and briefed them on the roadmap towards reforming the business licensing system. A local Consultant to do a mapping of all the business licences so as to guide appropriate interventions to improve the system was contracted during the period under review. It was envisaged that once the mapping is completed, a Stakeholders' Workshop will be held in July 2015, with the HCC taking the lead. On this basis specific reforms will be implemented. Non State Actors (NSA) such as the Combined Harare Rate Payers Association (CHRA), and the Zimbabwe United Ratepayers Association (ZURA), and other relevant CSOs will be invited to participate in this exercise given their active involvement in local authority governance oversight.

## Results Based Budgeting

During the quarter under review, the World Bank has confirmed that it will engage the two SERA supported consultants, Janine Mans and Ian MacKenzie, who supported the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MoHCC), and Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (MoPSE) in developing RBB systems, to engage with further ministries to expand on the previously provided technical assistance.

## Transactional Corruption in Business Survey

During the quarter under review significant progress was registered towards commissioning the “**Transactional Corruption Survey**”. The Survey which is being implemented by the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), and a local research company, Q-Partnership, is being held in response to a request by the Business Membership Organizations (BMOs). These are the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI), Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC) and the Small and Medium Enterprises Association of Zimbabwe (SMEAZ). The Survey seeks to provide an assessment of how corruption manifests itself in the private sector focusing on such aspects in the environment that allows it to thrive, the business processes/services that exhibit a higher/less incidence for its occurrence, and its overall impact on business viability. The Survey, which is being conducted under the theme “**Cost of Compliance**”, will examine specific areas where opaque terms, duplicate regulations, lack of access to information or too much discretionary power given to a public sector agency or service provider, lends to opportunities and instances of transactional corruption.

SERA sponsored press releases for the study in the Daily newspapers, namely: Business Herald, Business Chronicle, and Newsday on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2015 to raise awareness of the initiative. The BMOs have also been publicising the Survey through their Websites, and in-house Bulletins to reach out to their members to enhance the response rate of the Survey which will cover the two major cities, Harare and Bulawayo. A pilot testing of the Survey Questionnaire was undertaken on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to provide preliminary information on how appropriate the tool would be technically when the Survey is eventually rolled out early July 2015. The Survey will go a long way towards raising awareness on the nature and impact of corruption on the Zimbabwean economy, and provide entry points for specific reforms and policy advocacy initiatives to stem the scourge that has impacted negatively on the country's doing business parameters.

## Maize Pricing Study

During Q15 SERA finalized a study entitled “**Maize Marketing and Pricing in Zimbabwe: Implications for Macroeconomic Stability, National Food Security, Grain Industry Viability and Competitiveness**”.

Initially, this study was influenced by concerns over the implications of the Zimbabwe Government Statutory Instrument (SI)-122 which fixed the floor price of maize at \$390 per tonne. During the quarter however, the Government withdrew this controversial statutory instrument. However, the study always focused on the broader issues of what is the most optimum maize pricing policy for Government to adopt and the maize pricing options for consideration by policy makers. It will also assist in developing consensus among grain industry stakeholders including consumers, on the appropriate role for Government in agricultural pricing and procurement in Zimbabwe’s political context.

The Study has also focused on the debate about the consequences of such measures for macroeconomic and price stability, food security, and the viability of the local grain industry. The current study also included an extension of the SOW to considering how to make GMB a more viable institution. It is understood that maize in particular, as the staple food for the country, does not only affect the incomes of the growers but impacts on consumption levels of the rural and urban poor who are net purchasers of the commodity. The Final Draft of the study was submitted to SERA by the Consultant after the earlier drafts were received and reviewed by the SERA Team. This will be followed by a stakeholder workshop expected to take place in Q16 to disseminate the study findings.

## Parliamentary Training

In collaboration with Parliament and ZEPARU, USAID-SERA supported the preparation of the Economic Literacy Toolkit and Handbook for Parliamentarians in 2014. The Economic Literacy Toolkit is a major installment towards addressing the knowledge gaps of Members of Parliament on economic literacy, given the diverse educational backgrounds and experience of the Zimbabwean legislators. Parliament is central constitutionally, to safeguard public finance resources, and hence economic literacy will have a profound impact on the legislature’s capacity to hold the Executive to account on public finance management a major variable in economic governance. Attempts to deliver training sessions to Portfolio Committees of Parliament had stalled during 2014 given the transitional period post hosting of the 2013 General Elections. During the period under review USAID-SERA engaged the Clerk of Parliament to explore the possibilities of commissioning the Economic Literacy Toolkit, initially targeting the Chairpersons of Parliamentary Portfolio Committees, given their leadership role in the Business of the House and the Joint Budget and Public Accounts Committee, as pilot Sessions ahead of rolling the capacity building to all Committees. Parliament has welcomed this initiative, and is targeting the commissioning of the Toolkit during current sitting of the House to ease possible logistical bottlenecks. Apart from the Parliamentary Toolkit, Parliament has requested that all Policy related studies supported by USAID-SERA during its tenure be shared with Portfolio Committees to strengthen their economic policy related engagement of the executive during Plenary Debate to assert stronger public policy oversight in Zimbabwe.

## Wage Structure Study

There has been considerable debate in recent times that labour costs in Zimbabwe are very high, that the existing structure of wages and salaries in the public and private sectors are inequitable and not justified by considerations of productivity, and that the wage setting mechanisms do not contribute to equity or efficiency. In response to these concerns during the period under review SERA developed a Concept Note on the basis of which a public Request for Proposals (RFP) was floated to reputable local research organizations, and the submission of bids are expected in early Q16. The contracted research entity will prepare a research paper on Zimbabwe’s earnings structure and its impact on labour costs, both in the public and private sectors, with a view to understanding the constraints it places on the

macroeconomic capability of the Government to support sustainable development, and the ability of the economy to remain competitive.

In doing so, amongst other factors, the solicited Study is expected to consider the impact of labour laws, labour market flexibility, wage setting mechanisms, and the regulations and corporate governance standards underlying the determination of wage and management salaries in the public and private sectors. The National Economic Consultative Forum (NECF) has expressed interest in providing a national platform for enhancing the national dialogue on these issues.

## **5. TECHNICAL SERVICES: ASSISTANCE TO ZIMSTAT**

SERA continues to support ZIMSTAT's activities to improve the availability of reliable statistical information primarily through the Survey of Services activity and continuation of the re-canvassing of the CBR questionnaire as shown below.

### **Support for the Survey of Services (SS):**

ZIMSTAT continued collecting data to ensure that canvassing of all establishments that had not yet responded to the survey were covered. As a condition for co-funding, SERA continues to work with ZIMSTAT to develop an imputation plan to provide opportunity for review and input as relevant by our Senior Statistical Advisor

In addition to the current SS activities, ZIMSTAT has continued with the CBR re-canvassing for those establishments that did not respond during the main CBR survey during the quarter. The re-canvassing of the CBR questionnaires has continued in all provinces during SS phase 3 data collection. The updating of the CBR report will be done then disseminated once the Phase three of SS data collection is completed.

The information gathered by the SS activity will assist government in formulating policies for economic planning and in monitoring and evaluation of various development programmes. The information will also be used to estimate the contribution of the service industry to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and by the private sector and the general public in research and marketing projects.

### **Support for ZIMSTAT Website Development:**

During Q15 SERA closely worked with and supported ZARNET, a local IT company that was charged with the development of the ZIMSTAT website. As the developer ZARNET appears to have addressed many details necessary to complete the website. SERA began to share the new website for review by ZIMSTAT. The NADA module was already integrated and accessible from the Home Page through the "Publications On" box, and the "Publications" link on the main menu. The documents that are currently in the catalogue include the ones that were uploaded during the training with the University of Cape Town (UCT), and 3 additional studies uploads that we have been using for testing.

During Project Director Peter Miller's field visit to the field office, SERA met with ZIMSTAT in the company of ZARNET and the SERA Consultant, Kuziva Zimunya to review the remaining steps to get the website up and running. The remaining steps that remained included the review of the website feedback from ZIMSTAT and reaching an agreement with ZARNET timeline for completion, including site migration, populating NADA module with ZIMSTAT materials, surveys, and reports; agreeing on training of ZIMSTAT personnel and dates; and population of the website materials.

The training of ZIMSTAT personnel was planned to start soon after the completion of the delivery of the hardware and its installation.

## 6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

The SERA Program contract identifies three cross-cutting issues as “general program parameters and guidance” applying to overall performance: coordination with other USAID programs, poverty, and gender. The program continues to provide greater focus on democracy and governance issues, serving as a platform for dialogue among stakeholders in Government, the private sector, labor, academia and civil society organizations.

### Coordination with other USAID programs

The SERA COP continued to collaborate with the former ZimACP project, on the Maize Marketing and Pricing in Zimbabwe: Implications for Macroeconomic Stability. This study was delivered during the quarter, and it will be presented at a Stakeholder workshop early in the next quarter. The SERA COP also actively participated in the Zimbabwe Works’ Project Launch Event – Partnering to Build Economic Opportunities for Young People during the quarter. This event marks the official launch of Zimbabwe Works’ Phase II. It also marks the phase I project impact, expansion and innovation for programming to build economic opportunities for young people. The key speakers at the event included Mathew Breman, Africa Regional Director, International Youth Foundation, Ms. Stephanie Funk, USAID/ Zimbabwe Mission Director and Ms. Annabel Gerry, Head of DFID/Zimbabwe.

Outside the USAID community, the COP continued with intermittent discussions on policy issues and program coordination with the WB, UNDP, and DFID. In addition the SERA Team has expanded its outreach to work with the organizations and counterparties listed below:

### ***World Bank and other Development Cooperating Partners (DCPs)***

During the period under review work on Doing Business Reforms gained momentum, with MOFED formally inviting USAID-SERA to be a member of two Technical Working Groups (TWGs). There are four TWGs, that is, the **Starting a Business; Paying Taxes and Trading across Borders; Getting Credit and Resolving Insolvency**, and **Protecting Investors and Enforcing Contracts**. USAID-SERA is a member of the Starting a Business and the Getting Credit and Resolving Insolvency TWGs. This follows the successful execution of the two SERA supported studies on **Starting a Business**, and **Insolvency Resolution**. SERA’s contribution to the Doing Business Reforms Agenda will involve working with the WB among other partners. The WB would also work closely with the targeted government institutions at the center of the reform activities to mobilize other Development Cooperating Partners (DCPs) to strengthen the funding structure for the business reforms.

### ***Collaboration with Parliament of Zimbabwe (POZ)***

During the period under review USAID-SERA developed a collaborative framework with the Parliament of Zimbabwe (POZ). Parliament is an important pillar of democracy and governance, given its representative, law making and executive oversight role. The collaboration will facilitate delivery of the Parliamentary Handbook on Economic Literacy which was developed through SERA’s support during 2014. All current research and future research will also now be available to POZ for use by Portfolio Committees that shadow specific government sectors/ ministries to enhance meaningful engagement

and public policy oversight. SERA will work closely with the Southern African Parliamentary Support Trust (SAPST), an NGO which already has a MoU with the POZ to implement its activities.

### ***Collaboration with National Economic Consultative Forum (NECF)***

Given the strategic nature of some of the evidence-based research that SERA is undertaking, and its potential for influencing national economic policy, the NECF has been engaged to facilitate high level stakeholder dissemination of our forthcoming earnings structure study findings. The NECF is a public-private sector initiative that provides a platform for economic policy dialogue on key current and emerging subjects of national significance. SERA has also been canvassing the involvement of other Non-State Actors in the policy dialogue process. This makes it a credible policy advocacy platform for garnering broad-based and all-inclusive public policy advocacy initiatives. The NECF has since agreed to facilitate wider stakeholder dissemination of our forthcoming studies such as the one focusing on the wage structure, given its impact on productivity and competitiveness.

### **Poverty**

SERA's Maize Marketing study directly addressed issues affecting poverty in Zimbabwe. Poverty in general exists when people lack the means to satisfy their basic needs, and basic foodstuffs, such as maize, form a critical basic need for the population of Zimbabwe. The agricultural community in Zimbabwe strives to produce food firstly for themselves and excess for the market to generate income that will contribute towards attainment of other basic livelihoods components. This is particularly the case for the smallholder farming sector under which the majority of Zimbabwean farmers fall who have embraced cash crop farming to satisfy firstly basic needs then other non-basic needs.

The study on Mineral Revenue Disclosure and Information Needs of Various Stakeholders, completed during Q15, while primarily focusing on disclosure of information, governance and revenue transparency issues, it also impacts on reduction of poverty. The study concludes that mining companies that are already disclosing information must further disaggregate the information particularly in relation to payments made to government. It also concludes that mining companies should publish information on employment data, local procurement and investments in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to local communities within their mine catchment area and indeed, to the wider public. Besides providing poverty lens, this study focuses on democracy and governance issues such as regulatory, oversight, and corporate governance frameworks, with a view to bringing about reform, therefore making a significant contribution to improved corporate and economic governance, and accountability.

### **Gender**

As continued from previous quarters, the SERA program specifically tailors its gender considerations to the specific needs of its stakeholders, and encourages those stakeholders to consider the implications of gender in their work when programming with SERA.

In all program activities SERA tracks participants by gender, for which the results are identified in Annex 1.

SERA also works closely with program stakeholders to achieve as much gender-balance as possible in all SERA-sponsored training activities. Currently 4 of the 11 M.Sc. bursary students supported by the SERA program are women.

## **7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PLAN**

Nearly all the planned activities for the quarter under review have been carried out on schedule in collaboration with program stakeholders, including:

- Continuing the Starting A Business study, which has subsequently lead to further activities on Municipal Licensing Perform and improving Business Registration Systems;
- Parliamentary Training and Capacity building;
- Grain Marketing and Pricing Study;
- Mineral Information Mapping Study;
- Pension Industry Study;
- Financial Programming and Policies Modeling ; and
- Wage structure diagnostic Study.

**Annex 1** provides an itemized summary of the status of activities targeted in our Work Plan for Year 4, as implemented through Quarter 15.

Activities completed during the Quarter included:

- The Marketing and Pricing Study was completed during Q15.
- The Mineral Revenue Mapping Study was completed during Q15.
- SERA continued with the follow on activities from study on ‘Starting a Business’ in support of the request from the Zimbabwe Investment Authority (ZIA) and the MOFED – Improving Business Enabling Environment through Reforming Municipal Licensing System; and Reforming Company Registration System.
- Continuation with the Financial Programming and Policies modeling training workshop which is now scheduled for September 2015.
- SERA assistance to ZIMSTAT continued for the final SS data processing phase.
- Continued with support for the ZIMSTAT new website.

## **8. SERA PROGRAM CHALLENGES**

During Q15 the SERA team dealt with the following key challenges, including two items carried over from previous reporting periods:

- Obtaining Supply and Use Tables from ZIMSTAT continues to be a challenge, which SERA is now addressing by engaging with RBZ and MEFMI by offering the Macroeconomic Modeling training workshop, which caters for the Government’s Macroeconomic Working Group that consists of MOFED, ZIMSTAT and the Central Bank.
- With the SERA having spread its outreach programs to cover a wide number of partners, it has become a challenge to coordinate between the increasing range of stakeholder demands. However, this challenge has been addressed by adding capacity to SERA’s technical team by adding a full time Senior Economic advisor early in Q15. This has enabled the program to split technical demands between two Senior Economists with each acting as the Technical Lead for their own discrete set of technical activities. The team will be strengthened further by Emmanuella Matorofa’s accession to greater technical responsibilities due to her demonstrated skill in managing program tasks.
- Developing technical work with the MOFED, beyond training, has continued to be problematic due to the difficulty of commanding time with the ministry’s highly engaged Policy Directors. Nevertheless, the program continues to interact and respond to opportunities with the MOFED as they are available.

## 9. PLANNING FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

This section outlines selected key activities that were in process during Q15 which will continue in Q16 which is the final quarter of the current SERA program. Beyond Q16, the continuation of the program will depend on the successful extension of our program for another year from October 2015.

### Assistance to Private Sector and Civil Society Organizations

- Continue to expand CSO engagement in collaboration with the USAID COR.
- Continue to support the perceptions of corruption survey in collaboration with CZI and ZNCC. At the beginning of Q15 a new partner, the SMEAZ was included to provide greater access to their members. The full implementation of this survey will take place during Q16.
- Continue to publish and disseminate policy research and analysis.
- Provide funding or co-financing of research seminars and workshops relating to SERA-supported studies.

### Assistance to the GOZ

- Continue to initiate additional direct support for the MOFED and MIC activities.
- Co-fund with the World Bank RBB support for the Ministry of Finance and two line ministries - the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and the Ministry of Health and Child Care.
- Co-fund the Financial Programming and Policies (FPP) modeling training workshop in collaboration with MEFMI for the benefit of RBZ and government partners.

### Assistance to ZEPARU

- Conduct follow up in-country training for the central bank and government economists on Financial Programming and Policies modeling which is scheduled to take place in September 2014 during the next quarter.
- Continue funding ZEPARU bursaries for 11 government economists to pursue part time M.Sc. program in economics at UZ to the end of the project in September, 2015; and continuation with two Ph.D candidates who are not likely to complete their studies during Year 4.
- Continue funding ZEPARU bursaries for the two remaining economists from RBZ who are pursuing Ph.D. programs in South Africa. One Ph.D. candidate was awarded a doctorate degree during Q15.

### Assistance to ZIMSTAT

- Continue funding the Survey of Services (SS) data collection, and data processing, including refining their data processing approach with inputs from SERA's Senior Statistical Advisor.
- Complete the new ZIMSTAT website and purchase, install and configure hosting equipment.

## 10. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

**Annex 2** provides three matrices that appear in each progress report to monitor the USAID SERA program performance in terms of delivering outputs, achieving results, and producing proximate outcomes.

A fourth matrix provides information on “context indicators” that track Zimbabwe’s progress towards the USAID-SERA program goal of improving the macroeconomic environment for growth and poverty reduction. Although no claim can be made for attribution to SERA, several observations are worth citing:

- The MOFED 2015 Budget statement reported a reduction in the 2014 GDP growth rate estimate from 6.1% to 3.1%. This is more in line with the estimates and projections of the IMF. The IMF GDP estimate for 2014 is 3.2% and projections for 2015 have been further reduced to 2.8 % and 2.7% in 2016.
- Broad money supply increased by 1.57% from US\$4 370.32 million in March 2015, to US\$4 438.84 million in April 2015. However, on an annual basis, growth in broad money declined from 6.75% in March 2015, to 4.93% in April 2015.
- Net revenue collections for the first half of the year fell 6% to \$1.66 billion against a target of 1.76 billion. Comparatively, on an annual basis, the net collections were 3.6% lower than the 1.72 billion collected during the same period last year.
- Annual headline inflation remained in negative territory, decelerating further from -1.2% in March 2015 to -2.65% in April 2015. This continued decline in annual inflation was driven by both food and nonfood inflation.
- Latest data from RBZ estimates that the net inflows of Foreign Direct Investment for 2014 increased to 472.8m. Projections for 2015 remain at 591million. The absolute amount of FDI is still low by regional standards.
- Negotiations towards debt relief with the IMF continue after the first review under the 15-month Staff Monitored Program (SMP) was completed on April 8, 2015. The IMF issued a statement that despite substantial economic and financial difficulties; the Zimbabwean authorities have met all quantitative targets and structural benchmarks for the first review under the SMP. IMF staff continues to support Zimbabwe’s economic reforms and pursuit towards a debt relief strategy and remain engaged with the authorities to monitor progress in the implementation of the economic program and to provide targeted technical assistance.

## ANNEX 1. IMPLEMENTATION OF Y4 WORK PLAN – STATUS AT END OF QUARTER 15 \*

Year 4 Work Plan Task/Activity	Status at end of Q15
<b>1. Management and Administration Services</b>	
<b>1.1. Project management and administration</b>	
Coordinate with COR, other USAID programs, other key donors	On-going
Develop and manage STTA assignments	On-going
Maintain project accounts consistent with budget parameters, and documentation for audit	On-going and up to date
Maintain documentation for activities, expenditures, and monitoring indicators	On-going and up to date
Provide Training Coordinator to ZEPARU for management of SERA-supported activities	On-going
Coordinate with COR, other USAID programs, other key donors	On-going
<b>1.2. Reports</b>	
Submit Annual Report for Year 3 (also serving as Quarterly Report for Q12)	Done
Work Plan revision, if necessary	Done Year 4 Work Plan approved by USAID with minor modifications; no changes made during Q15; additional activities approved by USAID case-by-case
Submit Quarterly Progress Reports	On schedule
Submit Quarterly Financial Reports	On schedule
Submit Quarterly Accrual Reports	On schedule
Submit Activity Reports, Success Stories	On Schedule
Submit monthly activities reports, and weekly highlights as appropriate	Weekly bullets submitted to COR as warranted.
Submit library of reports and information products to DEC	Nathan HQ processes the documents for submission as available;
<b>2. Assistance to ZEPARU &amp; MOF</b>	

Year 4 Work Plan Task/Activity	Status at end of Q15
Provide Senior Economic Advisor to ZEPARU, as intermittent STTA	On-going
Provide financing to ZEPARU for 3 research interns	On-going
Coordinate with ZEPARU, MOF, Private Sector and CSOs on priorities for support and development of activities	On-going
Liaise on program activities with Parliament, RBZ	On-going Discussions with Parliament on-going through USAID coordinator Mr. Bigbouy Chikwavarara.
Liaise on program activities with other USAID projects & other donors	On-going
<b>2.1. Research and Analysis through ZEPARU, CSOs and MOFED</b>	
Provide technical support and mentoring to assist ZEPARU in producing approximately 4 high quality research products on topics of importance to economic policy makers. Potential themes include (with timing indicative only):	
<i>Private Sector Development (continuing research theme)</i>	Starting a Business reform potential assessment completed. Follow-on activities to implement priority reforms being pursued.
<i>Financial Sector Development, including Non-Banking Finance Institutes -NBFIs (continuing research theme)</i>	Pension sector study Scope of Work being finalized. Consultants to be recruited in Q16 following a Reference Group Meeting
Provide technical assistance to the MOFED for at least 4 high quality research studies on priority policy issues. <i>Topics TBD</i>	
Co-fund study on Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining	Done
Business Environment Survey – perceptions of corruption	Contracting arrangements with CIPE completed and the local research company Target was engaged. CZI and ZNCC on board and first Steering Committee held.
Provide funding as “paying agent” for ZEPARU for completion of possibly 1 outsourced research project. <i>Timing TBD.</i>	No outsourced research activity currently identified.
Provide STTA to assist ZEPARU in writing winning grant proposals	Not yet started
Provide STTA to assist ZEPARU in database development and adding data access to website	Not yet started

Year 4 Work Plan Task/Activity	Status at end of Q15
Provide STTA to strengthen ZEPARU capacity to produce policy briefs and press releases	As needed
Provide STTA to support recommendations from the Sustainability Study, as needed	As needed
Provide funding to ZEPARU for operational costs relating to research activities	As needed
Assist ZEPARU with planning and delivery of research seminars	As needed
Provide funding for the publication of ZEPARU research and analysis products	As needed
Provide funding for study tour by ZEPARU ED of leading economic development think-tanks in Africa, Europe and USA	Two EDs of ZEPARU and PPRIZ on board and SERA has contacted US based institutes/think-tanks for the visits likely during Q16 or thereafter
<b>2.2. Parliamentarian Training through ZEPARU</b>	
In collaboration with Parliamentary leaders, SAPST and ZEPARU, hold launch workshop for Economic Literacy training program	Planning on-going and in advanced stages. First training scheduled for early September 2015
In collaboration with Parliament, SAPST and ZEPARU: design and deliver training on Economic Literacy.	Planning on-going and in advanced stages. First training scheduled for early September 2015
Implement Certificate Program in Basic Economics for Parliamentarians	Planning on-going and in advanced stages. First training scheduled for early September 2015 On hold as noted above.
<b>2.3a. Short-term Training of Economists through ZEPARU and MOF</b>	
With ZEPARU and MOF, establish training priorities for SERA support for each quarter	The ZEPARU Strategic Workshop held in Q13 listed its training priority for 2015 as shown in Section and undertook to run at least two in-country short courses per quarter targeted at government economists, RBZ and other clients in the private sector and NGOs.
With ZEPARU and MOF, design, develop and deliver at least 5 customized local short-courses for economists. <i>Menu of subjects include:</i>	
<i>Advanced Excel Skills (continuation from Year 3)</i>	Not requested
<i>Tax Analysis and Revenue Forecasting (with ATI)</i>	Not requested
<i>Monitoring and Evaluation of Government Programs and Projects</i>	Not yet started

Year 4 Work Plan Task/Activity	Status at end of Q15
<i>Survey design and sampling methods</i>	Not yet started
<i>Introduction to CGE Modeling (with TIPS)</i>	Not requested
<i>Panel Data Econometrics</i>	RBZ Requested for financial support for second phase of the Financial Programming and Policy training scheduled for Q16. SERA co-funded the first training with MEFMI, 16-20 March 2015 at the Kadoma Hotel and Conference Centre.
Support 30 economists to attend regional short-courses	Put on hold
Conduct ex-post evaluations 6 months after each training event to assess value on the job and knowledge retention	On-going
<b>2.3b. Long-term Training of Economists</b>	
Continue bursary funding for 11 government economists as ZEPARU Scholars for part-time MSc program in Economics at UZ	11 bursary recipients continue studies. Eight students are in their final year and are scheduled to graduate in August/September 2015.
Continue bursary funding for 3 RBZ economists as ZEPARU Scholars pursuing PhD programs in economics in South Africa	On-going. One economist completed and graduated in April 2015. Two economists from RBZ continue their PhD studies in South Africa
Monitor use of laptop computers provided by SERA to ZEPARU Scholars	On-going, at intervals of 6 months; intern engaged to assist.
Provide logistical and personal support to ZEPARU Scholars studying in South Africa	Funding being provided to PhD bursary recipients for registration, visa, health insurance, travel, lodging, subsistence expenses, and books.
Track progress of all SERA-funded bursary recipients	On-going.
<b>2.4. Workshops and other research dissemination events</b>	
Provide funding for research seminars, stakeholders workshops and guest speaker seminars, and policy dialogue events co-hosted with other organizations	There was no activity in this area.
<b>3. Assistance to ZIMSTAT</b>	
Coordinate with ZIMSTAT on priorities, activities	On-going meetings as needed, determined by progress with on-going activities and ZIMSTAT schedules.

Year 4 Work Plan Task/Activity	Status at end of Q15
Liaise with other donors for coordination on support for ZIMSTAT	On-going intermittent discussions with WB, UNDP, and DFID.
Fund completion of Central Business Register (CBR) project	SERA funding for the CBR was completed, although ZIMSTAT continues to re-canvass data collection especially for Harare and other areas.
Co-finance the Survey of Services (SS) project	On-going - CBR re-canvassing and SS activities and two final PO for SS implementation approved by CO.
STTA for completing development of distance-learning in-service training system	Put on hold pending ZIMSTAT re-alignment of its priorities and may not actually happen.
STTA to assist with ZIMSTAT website upgrade	Website Development firm towards the end of project implementation and has coordinated with ZIMSTAT, the World Bank, and UNICEF continues to pull together the required NADA and ZIMDAT modules and inputs.
STTA to assist with the development of procedures for providing researchers with access to anonymized microdata sets, in full compliance with confidentiality requirements	On-going.
STTA to conduct quality assurance review of CBR and ZimDat databases	Postponed to Q16 as part of support to SS
STTA for creation of service sector index (or multiple service indices)	Scheduled for Q16 or thereafter
STTA for rebasing the Volume of Manufacturing Index and possibly other economic indices	Scheduled for Q16 or thereafter

\* This table excludes some lines from the Year 4 Work Plan that were only sub-tasks or illustrative examples.

**ANNEX 2: PERFORMANCE MONITORING INDICATORS**

Table A2.1. Output Indicators ..... p1

Table A2.2. Intermediate Results Indicators ..... p6

Table A2.3. Outcome Indicators ..... p10

Table A2.4. Context Indicators ..... p14

**Table A2-1. – Output Indicators**

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct–Dec	Jan–Mar	Apr–Jun	Jul–Sep	
<b>ASSISTANCE TO ZEPARU AND MOFED</b>										
<b>A. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS</b>										
1.	Number of completed policy studies: total, and with gender content	0	ZEPARU	Total (with ZEPARU) : 8 With gender content: 3 (details shown by quarter)  Total (for MOFED) : 1 With Gender content: 0 (details shown by quarter)	Total (with ZEPARU) : 10 With gender content: 5	Total: 1 (Mining Sector Transparency Study) With gender content: 0	Total: 4 (On the Brink of a Breakthrough, Starting a Business in Zimbabwe; Cost Drivers Analysis of Zimbabwean Economy; Transitioning to Program Budgeting in Zim-Education; Transitioning to Program Budgeting - Health)  With gender content: 0	Total : 2  Maize Marketing Study, Mining Information Mapping Study  With gender content: 0		
2.	Number of completed policy studies outsourced by ZEPARU with SERA support:	0	SERA	Total: 5 With Gender Content: 5	Total: 5 With Gender Content: 3	0	Total: 1 (ASM Gold Report)	0		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
	total, and with gender content			(details shown by quarter)			With Gender Content: 1			
3.	Person-hours of training completed in fiscal policy and fiscal administration supported by USG assistance (USAID PMP indicator): total, women	0	SERA	Total: 5537.5 Women:1577.75	Total: 4500 Women: 2250	Total : 257.5 Women : 0	Total : 810 Women : 570	0		
4.	Number of days of SERA technical assistance in fiscal policy and fiscal administration (USAID PMP indicator)	0	SERA	316	415	16	69.1	46		
<b>B. PARLIAMENTARIAN TRAINING</b>										
5.	Number of SERA-supported seminars for Parliamentarians, on economic policy and economic literacy.	0	SERA	0	6 seminars	Request for reprinting of 400 additional copies of Parliamentarian toolkit report approved. ZEPARU distributing copies in Q14.	Distribution of Parliamentarian toolkit report put on hold to allow ZEPARU and SAPST to engage the new Clerk of Parliament.	Clerk of Parliament engaged. Concept note approved. Training expected to begin in early September		
6.	Number of Parliamentarians trained with SERA support: total, women	0	SERA	0	Total: 90 Women: 45	0	0	0 (see previous line)		
<b>C. SHORT-TERM TRAINING OF ECONOMISTS</b>										
7.	Number of SERA-supported	0	SERA	6 customized	5 customized	0	1 (Financial	0		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
	customized short-courses for training economists.			short courses	short courses		Programming and Policy)			
8.	Number of economists attending customized short-courses: total, women	0	SERA	Total: 92 Women: 30	Total: 115 Women: 58	0	Total: 11 Women: 3	0		
9.	Number of individuals sponsored to attend external training courses: total, women	0	SERA	Total: 21 Women: 2	Total: 33 Women: 17	Total: 6 Women: 0	0	0		
<b>D. LONG-TERM TRAINING OF ECONOMISTS</b>										
10.	Number of individuals w/ SERA bursaries to part-time MSc in Economics at U Zimbabwe: total, women	0	SERA	Total: 11 Women: 4	Total: 3 Women: 3	Total: 11 Women: 4	Total: 11 Women: 4	Total: 11 Women: 4		
11.	Number of individuals w/ SERA bursaries to PhD in Economics at UCT or a comparable university (University of Pretoria and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University) in South Africa - total, women	0	SERA	Total: 3 Women: 0	Total: 3 Women: 0	Total: 3 Women: 0	Total: 3 Women: 0	Total: 2 Women: 0		
<b>E. WORKSHOPS (FOR OUTREACH/DISSEMINATION)</b>										
12.	Number of SERA-supported outreach/dissemination workshops	0	SERA	5	5	1 (Economics of Employment Creation)	1(Business Start Up in Zim)	0		
13.	Number of participants in SERA-supported workshops or	0	SERA	a)Total : 612 Women: data	a) Total: 500,	a) Total: 68 Women: 19	Total: 91 Women: 26	0		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
	seminars a) total, women b) government, private sector, ZEPARU/SERA, other			not available b) Govt : 50 Pvt Sector: 97 ZPR/SERA: 17 Other: 99	Women: 250 b)For tracking purposes, no targets	b) Govt : 28 Pvt Sector: 16 ZPR/SERA: 4 Other: 20	b) Govt : 35 Pvt Sector: 32 ZPR/SERA: 4 Other: 20			
<b>ASSISTANCE TO ZIMSTAT</b>										
<b>A. IMPROVE ORGANIZATION AND COORDINATION OF NSS</b>										
14.	Number of documents containing meta-data and data manuals produced and posted on-line with SERA support	0	SERA	0	2	0	0	1 (CBR Inquiry Report)		
15.	Number of SERA-supported public information events on economic statistics, through ZIMSTAT	0	SERA	0	1	0	0	0		
16.	Number of participants in SERA-supported public events through ZIMSTAT - total, women	0	SERA	0	Total: 50 Women: 25	0	0	0		
<b>B. DEVELOP PHYSICAL, IT AND STATISTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE</b>										
17.	Number of SERA-supported training events for ZIMSTAT staff	0	SERA	0	2	0	0	0		
18.	Number of participants in	0	SERA	0	Total: 50	0	0	0		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
	SERA - supported training courses for ZIMSTAT staff - total, women				Women: 25					
19.	Cum. number of distance learning training modules in economic statistics developed/supported by SERA	0	SERA	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold because SERA assistance focusing on CBR Inquiry	6	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold. SERA assistance now focusing on SS.	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold. SERA assistance now focusing on SS.	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold. SERA assistance now focusing on SS.		

**Table A2-2. – Intermediate Result Indicators**

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct–Dec	Jan–Mar	Apr–Jun	Jul–Sep	
<b>ASSISTANCE TO ZEPARU AND MOF</b>										
<b>A. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS</b>										
1.	Number of policy briefs/studies drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation with USG assistance(USAID PMP indicator): total, and with gender content	0	ZEPARU	Total: 9 With Gender Content: 5 (details shown by quarter)	Total: 8 With gender content: 4	Total : 1 (Economics of Employment Creation)  With Gender Content : 1	Total :1 (On the Brink of a Breakthrough, Starting a Business in Zimbabwe)	0		
2.	Number of economic research material available through online library on the ZEPARU website	12 (9 Periodic articles, 3 serials)	ZEPARU	48 (31 research papers, 10 economic barometers, 2 policy briefs, 5 presentations) 77 economic resource links	>=110 research material	54 (35 research papers, 12 economic barometers, 2 policy briefs, 5 presentations) 77 economic resource links	57 (37 research papers, 12 economic barometers, 2 policy briefs, 6 presentations) 77 economic resource links	60 (38 research papers, 12 economic barometers, 2 policy briefs, 8 presentations) 77 economic resource links		
<b>B. TRAINING OF ECONOMISTS</b>										
3.	Cum. number of semesters completed by gov't economists pursuing MSc-Econ at U Zim w/ SERA support - total, women	0	University of Zimbabwe	Total: 70 Women: 10	Total: 81 Women: 14	Total: 70 Women: 10	Total: 81 Women: 14	Total: 92 Women: 18		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
<b>D. WORKSHOPS (FOR OUTREACH AND DISSEMINATION)</b>										
4.	Number of press releases published or positive news reports on SERA-supported research or outreach/dissemination events: total, and with gender content	0	SERA	Total : 21 With Gender Content: 0	Total: 10 With gender content: 5	Total: 18 With gender content: 0	Total: 12 With gender content: 0	Total: 12 With gender content: 0		
<b>ASSISTANCE TO ZIMSTAT</b>										
<b>A. IMPROVE ORGANIZATION AND COORDINATION OF NSS</b>										
6.	Number of economic reports produced by ZIMSTAT with lag of no more than 12 months	2 – revised (CPI report; Poverty Datum Line Report)	ZIMSTAT	4 Quarterly Digest of Statistics, CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics	9	5 Quarterly Digest of Statistics, CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics, CBR Inquiry Report	6 CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Digest of Statistics; Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics; 2014 Labour Force Survey Report; 2014 Child Labour Report	4 CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Digest of Statistics (2015 Q1); Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics		
<b>B. DEVELOP PHYSICAL, IT AND STATISTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE</b>										
7	Completion and publication of	field work	ZIMSTAT	PICES Report	-	-	-	-	-	-

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
	the Poverty, Income, Consumption Expend. Survey (PICES)	underway		completed and launched in April 2013.						
8	Completion of Central Business Registry (CBR) update	poor quality data	ZIMSTAT	CBR data coding and entry completed in July. CBR Technical report was drafted and finalized in September.	CBR updated. Results used as sampling frame for other economic surveys	CBR Inquiry Report produced in Nov. 2014. First phase of CBR re-cavassing started on 24/11/2014 and to continue into Q14	Re-cavassing of CBR questionnaires to continue on 13 April 2015 after a break in March. Percentage of recovered questionnaires as of 2 March 2015 = 85.7%	Last phase of re-cavassing of CBR questionnaires began on 13 April 2015. Percentage of recovered questionnaires as at 7 May 2015 = 89.8%. Data entry of processed questionnaires currently in progress.		
9	Completion and publication of Census of Services (COS)-changed to Survey of Services (SS)	Last done 1981 (partial coverage only)	ZIMSTAT	SS to commence in Q13 since CBR was finalized in September.	SS completed and disseminated. Index of Services developed.	Phase 1 of SS data collection commenced on 24/11/2014 and ended on 19/12/2014. Recovery rate is currently at 19.4%. Phase 2 to commence in Q14	There was no data collection in January 2015. Phase 2 data collection commenced on 2 February 2015. Phase 3 data collection will continue on 13 April 2015 after a break in March.	SS phase 3 data collection started on 13 April and was completed on 4 May 2015 with 80.6% of the questionnaires recovered. Data entry of processed questionnaires currently in progress.		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
10	Number of ZIMSTAT staff using/completing SERA-supported distance learning training modules: total, women	not applicable	ZIMSTAT	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold because SERA assistance focusing on CBR Inquiry	Total: 20 Women: 10	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold. SERA assistance now focusing on SS.	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold. SERA assistance now focusing on SS.	Initiation of pilot phase of implementation of DL and SERA support put on hold. SERA assistance now focusing on SS.		

**Table A2-3. – Outcome Indicators**

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
<b>ASSISTANCE TO ZEPARU AND MOF</b>										
1.	Number of policy briefs/ studies analyzed and drafted with USG assistance, presented for public/stakeholder consultation and that contribute to new policies approved/ passed for implementation (USAID PMP Indicator); total and with gender content	0	ZEPARU	Total: 3 With gender content: 1 Corporate Financial Distress, Financial Liberalization and Crises, Zimbabwe Country Study on Negotiations for the Tripartite Free Trade Area	Total: 2 With gender content: 1	Total: 1 (Cost Drivers Study) With Gender Content: 0	Total: 1 (Cost Drivers Study) With Gender Content: 0	No additional items this quarter but Cost Drivers Study continuing to influence policy decisions during this quarter.		
2.	Number of policy briefs/ studies analyzed and drafted with USG assistance, presented for public/stakeholder consultation and that contribute to new policies approved/ passed where implementation is confirmed to have begun (USAID PMP Indicator); total and with gender content	0	ZEPARU	0	Total: 2 With gender content: 1	Total: 1 (Cost Drivers Study) With Gender Content: 0	Total: 1 (Cost Drivers Study) With Gender Content: 0	No additional items this quarter during this quarter.		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
3.	Number of participants/percent of respondents able to demonstrate knowledge retention by identifying three specific learning objectives from SERA-supported training at least 6 months after each training event (Disaggregated by sex)	0	ZEPARU	Total: 80 Women: 24	Total: 83 Women: 28	Total: 9 Women: 2	Total: 12 Women: 6	Total: 3 Women: 0		
4.	Number of participants/percent of respondents reporting at least one example of on-the-job utilization of content from USAID supported training at least 6 months after each training event (Disaggregated by sex)	0	ZEPARU	Total: 83 Women: 28	Total: 83 Women: 28	Total: 9 Women: 2	Total: 9 Women: 5	Total: 3 Women: 0		
5	Number of “hits” and downloads of policy briefs/reports/studies posted on ZEPARU website	568 hits 353 downloads	ZEPARU	37213 hits 9459 downloads	100 percent increase over prior year	7520 hits 1466 downloads (Oct – Dec 2014)	6426 hits 3511 downloads (Jan – March 2015)	6282 hits 5040 downloads (April – June 2015)		
6	Amount of funding for ZEPARU, excluding SERA and ACBF support	Budget vote 2010=\$10,000 2011=\$200,000	ZEPARU	\$140,127 (of which \$32,362 from GoZ)	\$300,000, incl. \$200k budget vote + other sources	Funds received this quarter NAC:\$4,213 TARSC:\$7,925 BAZ: \$2,600 ZIMTRADE: \$1,850 ZIMBISA:	Funds received this quarter ENOMIX: \$2,490 University of JHB: \$1,290 AfDB:\$17,700 AFRODAD:\$1,199 TARSC:\$1,365	Funds received this quarter GoZ: \$8,000 Telone: \$200 ZimTrade:\$400 Zimbisa:\$9,680 AfDB: \$9,500		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
						\$4,465 Total: \$21,053	AERC:\$4,977 UNICEF;\$1,450 Zimbisa:\$ 2,074 Total:\$ 32,545	ACBF: \$2,000 AfDB: \$22,840 Total: \$52,620		
<b>ASSISTANCE TO ZIMSTAT</b>										
7.	Improved National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) statistics using PICES data and economic surveys that benefit from CBR upgrade	Seriously deficient statistical inputs to NIPA	ZIMSTAT	PICES Report completed. CBR data coding and entry completed in July. CBR Technical report was drafted and finalized in September 2014	Second revision to NIPA using SS data complete	PICES Report completed. CBR Inquiry Report produced in Nov. 2014. First phase of CBR re-c canvassing started on 24/11/2014 and to continue into Q14	PICES Report completed. CBR re-c canvassing continuing with update and dissemination of results expected after completion of SS phase 3 data collection which will commence on 13 April 2015 after a break in March.	PICES Report completed. CBR re-c canvassing completed and data entry currently in progress. SS phase 3 data collection also completed and data entry in progress.		
8.	Number of economic reports available on the ZIMSTAT website, with lag of no more than 12 months	1 (revised) Poverty datum line report	ZIMSTAT	4 Quarterly Digest of Statistics, CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics	8	5 Quarterly Digest of Statistics, CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics, CBR Inquiry Report	5 Quarterly Digest of Statistics, CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics, CBR Inquiry Report	8 Quarterly Digest of Statistics, CPI report, Poverty datum line Report, Quarterly Bulletin of External Trade Statistics, CBR Inquiry Report, Business;		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	
								Tendency Survey Report, 2014 Labour Force Survey Report; 2014 Child Labour Report		

**Table A2-4. – Context Indicators**

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct–Dec	Jan–Mar	Apr–June	Jul–Sept	
<b>ECONOMIC GROWTH</b>										
1.	Real GDP Growth	IMF estimate 6.0% for 2011; projection 3.1% in 2012; 3.0% for 2013-15	IMF for updated estimates, ZIMSTAT for actuals	IMF Growth estimate for 2013: 3.3%. Projections for 2014 reduced to 3.1% and 3.2% in 2015	IMF baseline proj. for 2015 exceeded by 2% = 5%	IMF Growth estimate for 2013: 3.3%. Projections for 2014 reduced to 3.1% and 3.2% in 2015	IMF Growth estimate for 2014: 3.1%. Projections for 2015 reduced to 3.1% and 3.9% in 2016	IMF Growth Projections for 2015 further reduced to 2.8% and 2.7% for 2016		
<b>POVERTY REDUCTION</b>										
2.	Poverty indicators as available (total, male, female)	UZ/MZF 2011: total consumption poverty rate = 87%	Agencies conducting poverty surveys, with or w/o SERA support	HH poverty prevalence = 62.6% HH extreme poverty prevalence=16.2% Individual poverty prevalence=72.3% Individual extreme poverty prevalence=22.5% (ZIMSTAT Poverty Report 2011/12)	Quick Poverty Survey developed, conducted & published	HH poverty prevalence = 62.6% HH extreme poverty prevalence=16.2% Individual poverty prevalence=72.3% Individual extreme poverty prevalence=22.5% (ZIMSTAT Poverty Report 2011/12)	HH poverty prevalence = 62.6% HH extreme poverty prevalence=16.2% Individual poverty prevalence=72.3% Individual extreme poverty prevalence=22.5% (ZIMSTAT Poverty Report 2011/12)	Final PICES data remains the latest data. (see previous column)		
<b>EMPLOYMENT CREATION</b>										
3.	Formal sector non-gov't jobs (total, male, female),	422,700 = latest	ZIMSTAT	Paid employment as % Ec Active	5% growth in formal	395,900 for June 2014. No breakdown by sex	Total = 393,800 for September 2014. No	Total = 393,800 for September 2014. No		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sept	
	excluding agriculture. No breakdown by sex available	ZIMSTAT data for Dec 2008. No breakdown by sex available		Pop age 15+: Total: 23.8% Men: 31.2% Women: 16.2% Total employment outside gov & agric: Total: 1,046,463 Men: (65.2%) Women: (34.8%) (PICES 2011/12, & Nathan calc's)	sector jobs	available. (Labour force data from QDS)	breakdown by sex available. (Labour force data from QDS)	breakdown by sex available. (Labour force data from QDS)		
<b>FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION</b>										
4.	Non-mineral revenue (NMR)	2.6 billion (2011)	Baseline from ZIMRA 2011 Revenue Performance Report	Net Revenue Collections for 2014 Q3=\$884.5m Same period 2013 = \$858.3m Growth = 3%	Non-mineral revenue gr. >= growth of non-mining GDP	NMR for the year 2014 =\$3.329 billion NMR for the year 2013=\$3.296billion Growth= 1%	Net Revenue Collections for 2015 Q1=\$803.2m Same period 2014 = \$834.6m Growth = (-)3.8%	Net Revenue Collection for the first half of 2015=\$1.66billion Same period 2014 = 1.72 billion Growth=(-)3.6%		
5.	Percentage of central government expenditure on social services and productive infrastructure (excl. personnel cost)	Est. 18.42% (September 2011)	MOFED	Government capital expenditure as a % of total expenditure to August 2014 = 5.92% (MOFED 2014 Budget Outturn)	24%	Government capital expenditure as a % of total expenditure to November 2014 = 7.8% (MOFED 2014 Budget Outturn)	Government capital expenditure as a % of total expenditure for January 2015 = 1.6% (MOFED State of the Economy, Jan	Government capital expenditure as a % of total expenditure for March 2015 = 1.95% (MOFED Budget Outturn)		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sept	
							2015)			
<b>DEBT RELIEF</b>										
6.	Improved debt management	Controversy on use of HIPC	MOFED	3rd and last review of SMP held in September indicates June-end targets and benchmarks met. Discussions between GoZ and IMF staff mission were on a 15 month SMP successor to end in December 2015 with focus on balancing the primary fiscal budget and addressing debt challenges.	HIPC decision point HIPC program followed	Successor SMP covering a 15 month period began in Oct. 2014 and will continue to Dec. 2015. It will be monitored based on quantitative targets and structural benchmarks.	IMF mission visited Harare from Feb 25 to March 9, 2015 to conduct the first review under the 15-month SMP. ZIM authorities have met all quantitative targets and structural benchmarks for the first review under the SMP.	IMF continues to support Zimbabwe's economic reforms and monitor progress in implementation of economic program in pursuit towards a debt relief strategy.		
<b>INVESTMENT PROMOTION</b>										
7.	Foreign direct investment, net inflow (US\$ millions)	\$105m, 2009 \$122.6m, 2010 (RBZ Actuals)	Baseline: Actuals: RBZ BOP Data	2013 estimate increased to 373.1m Projections for	10% growth	2014 estimate = 300.6m Projections for 2015= 591.0m	2014 estimate increased to 472.8m Projections for	No change in RBZ BOP data from last Quarter. RBZ still working on migrating to BOP		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sept	
				2014= 300.6m 2015= 591.0m			2015 remain at 591.0m	Manual 6		
<b>GENDER EQUITY</b>										
8.	Formal sector employment, non-gov't: % women (as available)	37% of women formally and informally employed. Data n. a. on formal sector jobs by sex	Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey 2010 -2011	% "employed" age 15+ in non-gvt excl. agric. Male = 65.2% Female = 34.8% % of paid employment Male = 66.4% Female = 33.6% (Nathan calc., data from final PICES Report 2011/12)	10% growth	No new data available. Final PICES data remains the latest data.	% "employed" women in wage employment, non-agriculture = 36.7%  (ZIMSTAT 2014 Labour Force Survey)	% "employed" women in wage employment, non-agriculture = 36.7%  (ZIMSTAT 2014 Labour Force Survey)		
<b>BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT</b>										
9.	New business registrations (number per calendar year)	8550 in 2011	Registrar of Companies	8056 (through to September 2014)	12000	2615 (Oct-Dec ) 10671 (through to December 31, 2014)	2891 (Jan-March )	1999 (April - June 2015) 4890 (through to June 30, 2015)		
10.	Doing Business Ranking	171 out of 183 countries for 2012	IFC/WB Doing Business	170 out of 189 countries for 2014	165	171 out of 189 countries for 2014	171 out of 189 countries for 2015. Figure for 2014	171 out of 189 countries for 2015. Figure		

No.	Item	Baseline	Source	Year 3 Actuals	Year 4 Annual Target	Year 4 Actuals				Total for Year 4
						Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sept	
			Report 2012	Figure for 2013 revised to 168 out of 189 countries			revised to 172 out of 189 countries	for 2014 revised to 172 out of 189 countries		
<b>FINANCIAL SECTOR</b>										
11	Level and Growth of deposits in banking system	December 2011 total deposits = \$3318.2m , Growth = 42.6%	RBZ Monthly Report	August 2014 =4322.1m Growth from year earlier = 13.85%	> Nominal GDP growth	November 2014 = \$ 4415.47m Growth from year earlier = 15.98%	February 2015=\$4337.89m Growth from year earlier = 7.86%	April 2015 = \$4438,84m Growth from year earlier = 4.93%		
12	Bank interest spread (% points) (average lending rate less SERA estimate of average interest cost of deposit funds)	Est. 9.9% (October 2011)	RBZ Monthly Weekly Reports	5.16%* (August 2014)	5%	5.22%* (November 2014)	5.96* (February 2015)	5.22%* (April 2015)		
13	World Bank Statistical Capacity Indicator (Indicator from NSDS Monitoring F/Work).	49 (2011)	World Bank	54 (2013)	60	54 (2013). Figures for 2014 not currently available	58 (2014)	58 (2014)		