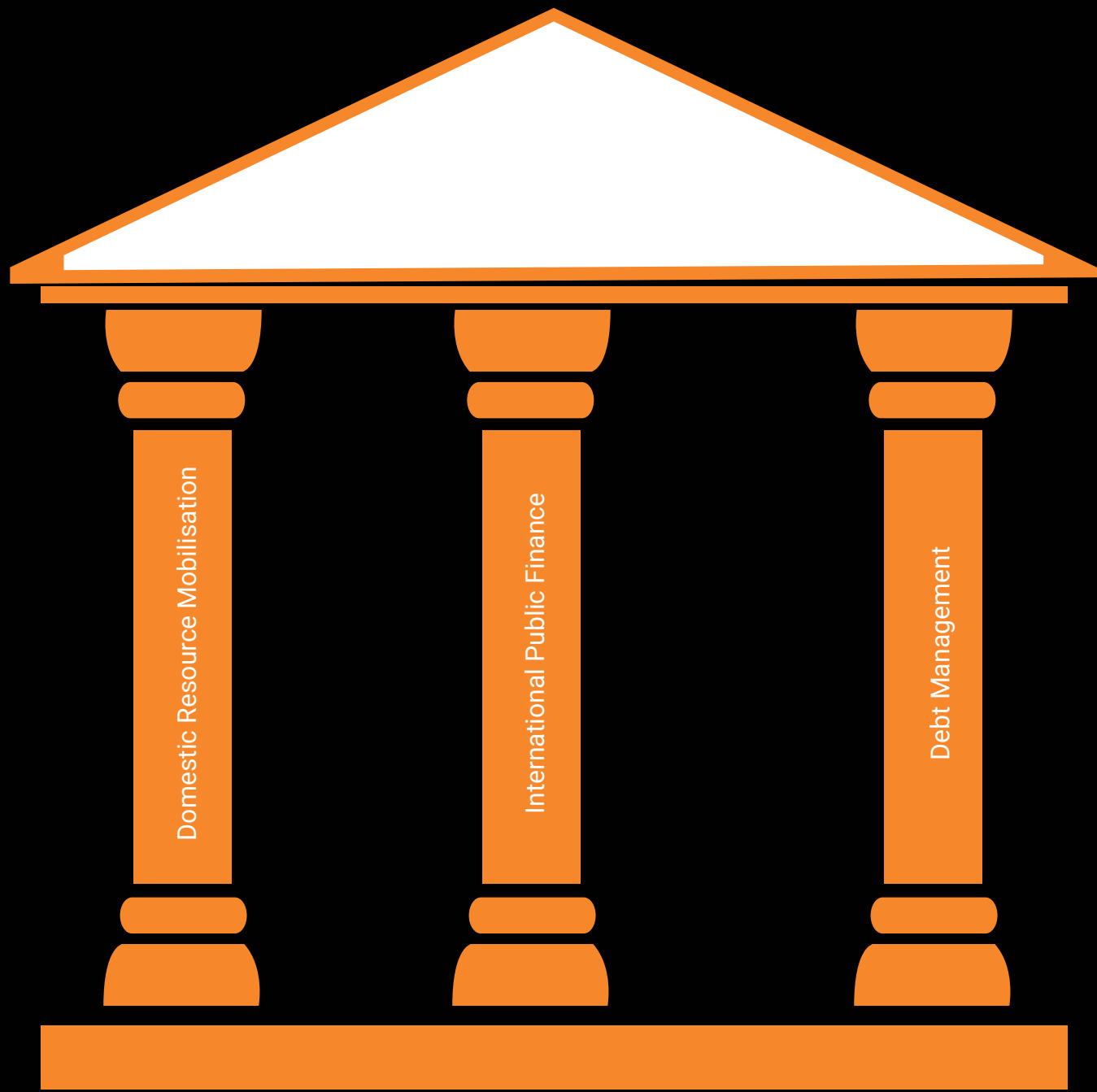


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INFLUENCING POLICY TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION IS  
LIKE BUILDING A HOUSE, ONE STONE AT A TIME

# ANNUAL REPORT



Domestic Resource Mobilisation

International Public Finance

Debt Management

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## INTRODUCTION

This Report on AFRODAD activities carried out during 2019 is in four sections: the activities undertaken in the three thematic areas of AFRODAD focus namely, Debt Management, Domestic Resource Mobilization and the International Public Finance and the Institutional and organizational development.

The Report puts emphasis on the impact of activities undertaken on immediate outcomes of influencing policy, contributing to knowledge based on evidence based research and strengthening of civil society to enable it engage with duty bearers on an informed basis.

### 1.0 DEBT MANAGEMENT

#### 1.1 *Zimbabwe High Level Debt Conference*

AFRODAD co-organised the Zimbabwe High Level Debt Conference with Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) on 28th March 2019, in Harare Zimbabwe. More than 50 participants from CSOs, government (policy makers), parliamentarians (lawmakers), European Union Commission (representative of creditor nations) and the media participated at the conference. The major objective of conference was to advocate for prudent debt management systems in Zimbabwe – using the African Borrowing Charter developed by AFRODAD. Participants’ understanding on the African Borrowing Charter and the role of parliament in strengthening transparency and accountability in public finance management was enhanced. Also CSOs voices were strengthened to demand for the alignment of the current public finance management (PFM) laws to the 2013 Constitution, the PFM Act and the Debt Management Act.

#### 1.2 *International Seminar on Public Debt - How to avoid the repetition of “odious” debts?*

AFRODAD was invited by Centre for Public Integrity Mozambique (CIP) to give expert advice and share experiences on odious debts during an International Seminar on Public Debt in Maputo Mozambique, March 15, 2019. AFRODAD made a presentation and managed to reach out to over 100 participants from Parliament, Attorney General, academy, political parties, parliamentarians, and the civil society present.

At the end of the seminar a statement was issued, and it reflected AFRODAD inputs, especially recommendations on how civil society in Mozambique should lobby for specific arms of Government to hold those involved in contracting debts. Clearly it was an issue abuse of office and corruption for which institutions exist in Mozambique but it takes civil society organizations to monitor the loan contraction processes to ensure that where the rules are not followed or there is corruption these matters are brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities. This will prevent ordinary Mozambicans having to should repayment of loans from which they did not benefit.

#### 1.3 *Launch of Borrowing Charters - at the Pan-African-Parliament Seminar*

AFRODAD lobbied for the adoption of the African Borrowing Charter principles and guidelines to the Pan-African-Parliament (PAP) on the 5th-7th March 2019 in Johannesburg, South Africa. This invitation shows that AFRODAD’s work has been recognised and it’s a credible civil society organisation for the continental parliament. The presentation was made during the PAP Committee on Finance seating Session and feedback from the committee has been positive.

The committee promised to make use of the Charter in its work and in future draft a Charter along the lines of the AFRODAD charter.

#### 1.4 *Launch of the African Borrowing Charter in Parliament of Uganda*

On the 16th of May, AFRODAD jointly with Uganda Debt Network (UDN) presented and lobbied for adoption of the African Borrowing Charter principles and guidelines by the Uganda parliament. The engagement with the Public Accounts committee and verbal feedback has been positive.



The Charter was well received by the Committee and it commended UDN and AFRODAD for equipping them with knowledge on public debt and debt management. The Chair tasked members of the Committee to get acquainted with the Charter as it would be one of the topics of discussion at their subsequent meeting. The two organisations raised awareness on debt among parliamentarians and the media in Uganda. Media widely covered the launch.

#### 1.5 *AFRODAD's side event during IMF/WB 2019 Spring meetings*

The major objective for AFRODAD's side event was to appraise participants on the challenging political climate in the Central Africa Economic and Monetary Communities (CEMAC) region and its potential to support the economic and fiscal reforms agenda in the face of mounting debt commitments in the region. There were more than 30 international participants including Mr. Joel Toujas-Bernate, Assistant Director\_ IMF African Department.



*IMF promised to look into some issues raised during plenary discussions with the view to address them in collaboration with CEMAC member countries.*

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## *1.6 Global Solutions Summit & Civil Society Experts Meeting*

The Civil Society Experts Meeting happened at the side-lines of The Global Solutions Summit - a global forum that works to propose solutions to major global problems, addressed by the G20, the G7 and other global governance fora. During the global solutions summit & civil society experts meeting held on 17 - 22nd March, 2019, in Berlin, Germany AFRODAD contributed to developing a common position on Civil Society demands to deliver to global economic and financial policy makers involved high level discussions on global financing for development process. AFRODAD's main input was a presentation on Africa's experience with global flows in development finance. This presentation took a comprehensive look at the various financial flows into the continent and the problems and challenges therein. The aim of the expert meetings was to obtain Civil Society inputs to feed into high level discussions on global financing for development processes and to form a uniform Civil Society position in approaching such discussions and processes.

## *1.7 Regional Dialogue on Curbing Illicit Financial Flows (IFF) from Africa - 20th-21st of March 2019, Gaborone Botswana*

AFRODAD organised and hosted the Regional dialogue to enhance participants' understanding of the linkages between Debt, Human Rights and IFFs. A debt presentation was delivered that demonstrated the linkages and improved participants' knowledge. AFRODAD reached out to more than 40 participants from 15 African countries.



The regional dialogue engaged multiple stakeholders and policy actors including parliamentarians, climate and gender groups, journalists, trade union associations, private sector and religious groups. The meeting was graced by Mr. Gofaone Molefhe, Chief Minerals Officer from the Botswana Ministry of Minerals Green Technology and Energy Security.

## *1.8 AFRODAD invitations to address Regional Parliaments -East African Legislative Assembly and Southern Africa Parliamentary Forum*

AFRODAD was invited to dialogue and enlighten Regional Parliaments and parliamentarians' role on prudent debt management in Eastern and Southern Africa. The two regional parliaments acknowledged the work AFRODAD does and its importance to regional integration. Further structured engagements were requested by parliamentarians from East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) member countries of Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and South Sudan. The organisation contributed to the enhancement of the capacity of EALA /SADC parliamentarians in the area of Sovereign Debt resultantly enabling them to foster prudent debt management at national levels as enshrined in the AFRODAD proposed African Borrowing Charter.



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## *1.9 AFRODAD attended African Development Bank's annual meetings*

AFRODAD major objective for attending the African Development Bank (AFDB)'s meeting was to influence finance ministers, governors of central banks, policy makers, civil society groups, heads of international organisations and business leaders from the Bank's member states to implement prudent debt management. It was held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea Republic - 11th - 14 June 2019

### *1.10 Ghana Debt Advocacy Meeting*

AFRODAD jointly with Grassroots Africa organised a debt advocacy meeting whose major objective was to provide a platform for debt management stakeholders to promote mutual learning and knowledge exchanges in Accra Ghana on 04 July 2019.

Through this meeting, AFRODAD provided a platform for debt management stakeholders to debate, learn and exchange debt knowledge based on the Ghanaian experience. AFRODAD urged the Ghana officials to continue improving the country's debt strategies, fix its financial sector fragilities and implement the fiscal responsibility law passed by Parliament stating that public debt should be kept below the established threshold of 65% of Gross Domestic Product. The government officials present and the MPs committed to implementing prudent debt management policies as enshrined in the AFRODAD proposed African Borrowing Charter.

### *1.11 Chad Debt Advocacy Workshop*

AFRODAD in partnership with the Reflection and Orientation Circle on the Sustainability of the Chadian Economy (CROSET) hosted a high-level advocacy workshop on the management of public debt in N'Djamena, Chad on 09 July 2019. The workshop provided a platform for debt management stakeholders to promote mutual learning and knowledge exchange. The workshop drew expertise from various Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), economic bodies namely the Audit Bench of Tchad the Supreme Court, the National Assembly Finance, Budget and Public Accounting Committees, representation from the Ministry of Economy and Development Planning and the Ministry of Finance and Budget as well as the private sector in Chad. The workshop was placed under the high patronage of the President of the Chamber of Accounts of the Supreme Court Madam Zara Brahim Itno.

AFRODAD received the commitment from CSOs, the government and other stakeholders to participate and strengthen inclusive and transparent public loan contraction processes.

### *1.12 Media capacity building workshop on Debt and Illicit Financial Flows*

AFRODAD in partnership with the Center for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) - Zambia and Debt Jubilee Campaign UK hosted a media capacity building workshop on debt and Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) in Lusaka, Zambia from 28-29 August 2019. The workshop was attended by over 30 participants including journalists from Zambia's leading and most influential media outlets based in Lusaka and representatives from various government ministries.

The intensive training programme provided journalists and government officials with information, tools and strategies to understand issues surrounding debt sustainability and the meaning of IFFs and how curbing them can help the Zambian government to develop much needed public services

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### 1.13 Zambia Public Debt Symposium

AFRODAD in collaboration with CUTs and CSCR jointly organised the Zambia Public Debt Symposium in Lusaka, Zambia on the 30th of August 2019. The symposium got wide media coverage thus enabling the debt management message to reach every stakeholder concerned.



During the debt symposium AFRODAD and its partners also drafted a communiqué which recommended the Zambian government to prioritise the implementation of financial oversight reforms and the increase of debt transparency and accountability.

At that meeting AFRODAD also introduced the notions and ideas about the African Debt Barometer which is expected to be launched in 2020 in Zambia and other countries.

### 1.14 Benin Debt Management Workshop

AFRODAD in partnership with Social Watch organised a debt advocacy meeting in Benin, September 2019. The meeting brought together more than 30 participants drawn from government, civil society organizations and multi/bilateral development partners.

The Director of the Civil Cabinet to the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic welcomed the idea of Civil Society involvement in issues of debt management. The ministry also committed to remain open and receptive to suggestions on transparent debt management from civil society.

### *1.15 IMF/WB 2019 Annual Meeting CSPF Side Event*

AFRODAD organised and hosted a side event during the IMF/WB 2019 Annual Meetings 15 October. Mr Ivohasina Razafimahefa, Deputy Division Chief, West Africa from the IMF African Department and Gerard Kambou, World Bank Africa Chief Economist Office attended and made presentations. The side event discussed how Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the West and Central Africa regions can evolve in the face of new and emerging debt and sustainable development challenges.

The objective of the meeting was to strengthen civil society voices on sustainable debt and development policies in West and Central Africa. Strategies were proffered on how CSOs can effectively influence sustainable debt and development policies. Also discussed were challenges faced by civil society in influencing the implementation of sustainable debt and development policies in the regions.

### *1.16 Zimbabwe Multi-stakeholder Debt Conference*

AFRODAD jointly with ZIMCODD organised the Zimbabwe Multi-stakeholder Debt Conference in Harare, from 29th – 30th October 2019. Participants were drawn from various sectors of the economy i.e. Government, parastatals (ZIMRA), business (CZI), civil society organisation (CSOs), non-governmental organisations, parliamentarians, academia, faith-based organisations, development partners, international financial institutions such as IMF, WB and AfDB, think tanks, the private sector as well as media. The social media messaging and Star FM Radio Interviews produced during the conference contributed to a profound understanding and awareness of complex issues related to Zimbabwe's debt.



The conference offered an opportunity and platform for dialogue and engagement with state actors and the citizenry towards strengthening transparency and accountability in Public Finance Management (PFM) in Zimbabwe.

A participating Member of Parliament acknowledged the help that AFRODAD and ZIMCODD are extending in terms of capacitating members of Parliament on debt and debt related issues. Capacity building will therefore help parliamentarians acquire capacity with regards to technical issues related to debt. There was wide media coverage of the event. Our local implementing partner had an interview with one of the journalists about the purpose of the conference, the interview can be found here <https://www.ebusinessweekly.co.zw/zim-debt-overhang-challenge/>.

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### *1.17. South Sudan Consultative Forum on Debt governance and domestic resource mobilization*

AFRODAD in collaboration with the Centre for Budget Policy and Accountability (CBPA), a local organization based in Juba South Sudan, organized a consultative forum on debt governance and domestic resource mobilization on the 5th – 6th November 2019. The forum was attended by representative from the civil society, the academia, media and university students. The forum was very timely because it came at a time of political stalemate on the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU) as per the peace agreement, Revitalized agreement for the Resolution of the conflict in South Sudan (R-ACRSS). Chapter four of the R-ACRSS call for reforms in the economic management of the public resources. The objective of the forum was to improve the involvement and the participation of CSOs and other stakeholders in monitoring debt borrowing, thereby building a rapport among governments, parliaments, private sector, donors and CSOs towards effective debt management in South Sudan.

The review of the Public Finance Management (PFM) laws is critical to the effective use of resources in order to spur growth of the economy to facilitate reconstruction and national development. Reforms will also critically require public discussions on the necessary reforms to the PFM sector in order to strengthen fiscal responsibility, accountability and control in the management of public funds. Civil society therefore has an uphill task to mobilize its constituents for open discussions on the process of reviewing laws or reforms of the Public Finance Management sector.

### *1.18 AFRODAD 2019 Summer School*

The annual AFRODAD 2019 Summer School was held on 25th-29th of November 2019 in Pretoria, South Africa. Two Debt modules were delivered during the course of the week: The Nexus between Debt and Human Rights and Existing frameworks and tools for preventing and dealing with unsustainable debts limitations and strengths.



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### *1.19 12th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference*

AFRODAD was represented at the 12th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference in Geneva Switzerland themed “Making Debt Work for Development”. The conference brought together debt management stakeholders from government, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organisations. The meeting was also an opportunity for networking with potential partners while offering AFRODAD the opportunity to learn about the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System Programme Advisory Group’s work and its debt management software used by some African countries with debt management policies that AFRODAD is working to influence.

AFRODAD seized the opportunity to follow up current debates on issues of debt management and how this should orientate AFRODAD’s work in terms of setting its priorities for advocacy work.

### *1.20. The All Africa Conference of Churches - African Continental Consultation Workshop*

AFRODAD addressed church leaders on “The New African Debt Crisis & deficits in sound economic governance” during the African Continental Consultation Workshop by the All Africa Conference of Churches - Liaison Office at the African Union from the 3rd – 5th December 2019, Nairobi, Kenya with the theme “Advancing Human Dignity through Influencing / Advocacy”.

The Church needs to demand transparency and accountability in debt management; speak against corruption; call for implementation of legally binding fiscal rules, debt rules that will guide when and how much to borrow. It also needs to mobilize its billion followers and make demands on government for prudent debt management. Moreover, the church needs to advocate for prudent debt management through engaging the national, regional and African Union – Pan African Parliament. Parliaments are mandated to hold Government officials accountable for the spending of public funds and stewardship over public resources.

### *1.21 Congo Brazzaville Debt Advocacy Workshop – 10 December 2019*

On December 20th, 2019, AFRODAD organised a debt advocacy workshop in collaboration with its partner, La Plateforme Dette & Développement, Republic of Congo, a network of over 40 Civil Society Organisations working on issues of debt transparency, sustainable development and human rights in the country. The objective of the meeting was to help participants understand the debt structure of the Republic of Congo as well as its payment mechanism and to share techniques of monitoring public debts and key debt management issues contained in the African Borrowing Charter by AFRODAD.

This meeting also brought together government officials in the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Congo as well as media practitioners and representatives of other civil society organizations. Plateforme Dette et Développement is currently involved in monitoring the implementation of projects emanating from debt relief under French Debt Reduction-Development Contract (C2D). About 30 copies of the African Borrowing Charter were distributed to participants who appreciated it as an important working tool for advocacy work in the country.

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### *1.22 La Francophonie Debt Conference*

AFRODAD was invited to participate in a workshop on sharing policy experiences on indebtedness and un-indebtedness to finance development endeavours from 10th to 13th December 2019 In Kigali, Rwanda. The event was organised by La Francophonie in partnership with the government of Rwanda. It brought together Director and Manager of Debt Management Offices and Ministries of Economy and Finance from La Francophonie member countries; representatives of West and Central Africa Economic and Monetary Communities (CEMAC and UEMOA); parliamentarians from Francophonie countries and civil society experts on debt management issues. The objective of the meeting was to promote good debt management practices and responsible borrowing AFRODAD presented on "Transparency Concerns to Citizens on Debt Management Issues and the Role of a legal framework in this Process". The presentation capitalised on sections of the African Borrowing Charter by AFRODAD.

Over 40 copies of the Charter were distributed to participants and the document was warmly received by these participants many of whom approached AFRODAD representative inquiring on efforts AFRODAD is making to officialise the charter at the African Union level. Besides, participants were reminded to visit AFRODAD's website for update on organisational activities. AFRODAD's invitation to participate at this event was in recognition AFRODAD's work and influence on issues of debt management in Africa.

### *1.23 Research study on "Assessment of National Financing and Investment Policies in the Southern Africa and East African Community Member Countries against the Regional Financing and Investment Protocols".*

AFRODAD undertook this study in order to influence SADC and EAC member countries to align national legislation with regional protocols and strengthen monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure adherence. Alignment will be seen through domestication of the protocol in the first place and achievement of the debt thresholds recommended.

Key findings included the need to align national legislation with regional protocols and strengthen monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. Regular monitoring is required to ensure corrections can be introduced before major deviations. The published report and its key findings was shared with public accounts and budget committees of various national parliaments. The report was also distributed at various SADC and EALA workshops held throughout the year.

### *1.24 Regional researches for responsible loan contraction*

Researches in West Africa were on Ghana, Benin, Togo and Cote D'Ivoire. In Central Africa: Chad and Central Africa Republic.

The main objective was to strengthen inclusive, transparent and accountable public debt borrowing and loan contraction processes. Researches were completed and reports await publication. Findings will be shared and identified gaps will inform country advocacy interventions in 2020.

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### *1.25 Researches on Domestic Debt in the ECOWAS region - Mali, Gambia, Nigeria, Benin and Niger*

The researches were conducted with major objective of influencing the effective management of public domestic debt resources by African governments. Researches were completed and reports await publication. Findings will be shared and identified gaps will inform country advocacy interventions in 2020.

### *1.26 Production of Regional Debt Profiles and Debt Infographics, Glossary of Debt Terms*

During the course of the year AFRODAD produced Regional debt profiles, for five Sub-regions in Africa - West, Central, Southern, East and Northern; infographics tools and Glossary of Debt terms. These outputs will be used when influencing policymakers at national and regional levels. There has been Increase in demand and use for AFRODAD research products, referencing AFRODAD research, and academia making use of published research reports

### *1.27 Zimbabwe Research*

In order to contribute to the improvement of government of Zimbabwe transparency and accountability on public debt borrowing, AFRODAD undertook series of research studies and published the following report: (i) The Impact of Indebtedness on Human Rights in Zimbabwe; (ii) Growing China - Zimbabwe Debt Crisis: Implications on Debt Development; (iii) Alignment of Legislation Impacting Public Finance Management (PFM) in Zimbabwe; and (iv) Zimbabwe 2019 Annual Debt Management Report. Findings will be shared and identified gaps will inform country advocacy interventions.

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## 2.0 DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILISATION

### *2.1 Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI) Side Session*

AFRODAD hosted a side session during the 10th Alternative Mining Indaba in Cape Town, South Africa to showcase its studies on "Assessing the Political Economy Drivers of Illicit Financial Flows and Corruption and the Nexus between Corruption and Domestic Resource Mobilisation in the SADC Region: The Case of Malawi and Zambia". The side session held on 5th of February was attended by more than 50 participants. The indaba was held under the theme "Making natural resources work for the people". The objective of the side session was to showcase the AFRODAD mining sector researches on "Assessing National Mining Legal Frameworks and Policies of Selected SADC Countries against the Africa Mining Vision"; "Impacts of Fluctuating Commodity Prices on Government Revenue in SADC (Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia and Zimbabwe)"; and "Developmental Impacts of Illicit Financial Flows in SADC."

The participants commended AFRODAD for its role to educate the citizens on illicit financial flows. Participants were also capacitated on the political economy school of thought to explain illicit financial flows. Furthermore, presentations expounded on issues that relate to IFFs and transparency in the minerals sector and participants committed to cascade what they learnt to the grassroots in their respective countries and to pressure their governments to ensure that natural resources benefit citizens. AFRODAD will continue to capacitate its stakeholders on other schools of thought that explain illicit financial flows. This is important in crafting specific solutions to curtail IFFs. Spaces like the AMI will remain useful to showcase AFRODAD's work.

### *2.2 Dialogue Meeting on IFFs from Africa*

In partnership with Botswana Council of Churches (BCC), AFRODAD hosted the 4th Dialogue on IFFs from Africa in Gaborone, Botswana on the 20th-21st March 2019. The Dialogue was held under the theme "Fighting Illicit Financial Flows from Africa: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities". Participants were drawn from 15 African countries. The objective of the meeting was to engage multiple stakeholder and policy actors to share ideas, information, and discuss the progress, success, challenges and opportunities in the fight against IFFs from Africa and to develop new and improved strategic approaches to halting illicit financial flows from Africa

EALA and SADC PF committed to come up with a Regional law on curbing IFFs and utilizing existing regional integration platforms to influence national governments on IFFs. SADC PF committed to develop a model law on IFFs. SADC PF is also to engage with 2/3 national parliaments at the committee level on IFFs

The youths present committed to do activism on issues that relate to IFFs and debt; (ii) Putting IFFs on the government agenda through electoral political party manifestos and campaigns; (iii) capacitating their fellow youth in their respective countries and (iv) to conduct research.

Faith Based Organizations, Media and Revenue Authorities agreed to produce articles on IFFs and debt; conduct a stakeholder analysis to identify possible partners; do capacity building for the church constituency; and mobilize the grassroots for constructive engagements with power holders and information exchange.



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### *2.3 Transparency International Zimbabwe presentation on Financial Transparency*

At the invitation of Transparency International Zimbabwe (TIZ), AFRODAD made a presentation on fiscal transparency on the 7th May 2019 in Harare. The specific topic presented was: Fiscal Transparency as a key Pillar of Domestic Resource Mobilisation. The objective of the meeting was to influence policy change and to strengthen institutional response to promote transparency and accountability. The presentation by AFRODAD focused on how financial transparency would enhance domestic resources mobilisation in Zimbabwe.

Following AFRODAD's presentation, participants committed to advocate for financial transparency and accountability through analysing the Auditor general's report and pressing relevant authorities to act on the AG's recommendations in order to improve the mobilisation of domestic resources for national development. AFRODAD will continue to work with like minded organizations to urge for fiscal transparency and accountability for improved domestic resources mobilisation.

### *2.4 EALA and SADC PF members' Committed to initiating motions on IFFs and Debt issues*

Based on previous Summer Schools and Conferences on IFFs from Africa, AFRODAD was invited to attend two separate meetings during EALA and SADC PF plenary sessions in March and May 2019 respectively. Invitations were based on the previous summer schools and dialogue meetings on IFFs attended by EALA and SADC PF among other participants. During the meetings, presentations on illicit financial flows were made. The objective of the meeting was to empower SADC and EALA members on how to exercise their oversight and legislative role on debt and loan contraction processes as well as taming IFFs.

Members of Parliament present at the meetings separately agreed to initiate motions on IFFs and Debt in both regions. To this end, AFRODAD will be the technical partner for EALA and SADC PF through drafting these laws. AFRODAD will continue to engage with EALA and SADC PF on issues that relate to the mobilisation of domestic resources. Specifically, AFRODAD will provide technical support to the Parliamentarians to draft laws that curtail IFFs.

### *2.5 Zambia Alternative Mining Indaba Side Session*

AFRODAD attended the 8th Zambia Alternative Mining Indaba (ZAMI) from the 11th to 13th June 2019 in Lusaka, Zambia. This ZAMI was held under the theme "Our Zambia, Our Minerals, Moving Towards Meaningful Transparency and Accountability" and AFRODAD collaborated with Center for Trade Policy and Development to host a side session on the political economy drivers of illicit financial flows in Zambia. The objective of the side session was to share findings of the study on "political economy drivers of Illicit financial flows in Zambia".

As a result of this event, a media story was published in a Zambian newspaper: The Daily Nation. The story can be accessed [here](#). Participants also committed to pressure their government to deal with corruption with the view to curb illicit financial flows. AFRODAD will continue to capacitate African citizens on the political economy drivers of illicit financial flows and to pressure African governments to put in place measures to curb illicit financial flows.

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## *2.6 AFRODAD contributed to the 2019 SADC People's Summit*

With the view to influencing policy on curtailing illicit financial flows, AFRODAD made a presentation during the SADC People's Summit held on the 13th - 19th August 2019 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania under the theme: "Rebuilding People's Movements within Southern Africa's Climate, Political and Socioeconomic Emergencies towards Radical Democratic Alternatives and a Just Transition". AFRODAD made a presentation on the nexus between illicit financial flows, corruption and domestic resources mobilization.

Recommendations made on IFFs by AFRODAD on curbing IFFs were included in the communiqué that was handed over to Heads of States and Heads of Government. This work is informative to the meetings with SADC Parliamentary Forum PF. AFRODAD will continue to urge regional leaders to craft and implement laws that curtail IFFs.

## *2.7 Round table meeting on Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements*

On the 3rd October 2014, the Tax Justice Network Africa (TJN-A) petitioned the Kenyan High Court to nullify the Kenya Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) on the basis that it was unconstitutional and that it violated the principles of good governance, integrity, transparency, and accountability. The court found that the agreement should be voided on structural basis\_ a win for TJNA for striking down a harmful treaty. This prompted TJNA to collaborate with AFRODAD to strategize on how the petition could have been made better since the court had criticized it. The round table continental experts' meeting on DTAs was held between the 19th and 20th August 2019 in Nairobi.

The objective of the round table meeting was to have a detailed review of legal implications of the court ruling on the Kenya-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement; to analyse the jurisdictional of different countries throughout Africa and to discuss the transferability of this ruling. In addition to these specific objectives, AFRODAD's objective was to learn on how the formulated strategies and tactics can be adapted to petitioning unconstitutional debts in Africa.

From the discussions AFRODAD will do a discussion paper on the political economy of DTAs and look for data for counter arguments and other tactics that can be utilized in different countries to challenge DTAs that are unconstitutional and harmful to countries. AFRODAD will contribute to the development of the discussion paper and refine the tactics and strategies learnt to petition unconstitutional debts.

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## *2.8 Enhancing Capacity of Journalists to Report on Debt and Illicit Financial Flows*

AFRODAD in partnership with the Center for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) - Zambia and Debt Jubilee Campaign UK hosted a media capacity building workshop on debt and Illicit Financial Flows in Lusaka, Zambia from 28-29 August 2019. The workshop was attended by over 30 participants including journalists from Zambia's leading and most influential media outlets based in Lusaka and representatives from various government ministries. The objective of the meeting was to enhance reporting capacity for the media on debt and debt related issues.

The intensive training programme provided the journalists and government officials with information, tools and strategies to understand issues surrounding debt sustainability and the meaning of IFFs and how curbing IFFs can help the Zambian government to develop much needed public services. AFRODAD will continue to sensitize and capacitate journalists in the region so that they are aware of the developmental impacts of IFFs while assisting them in framing the IFFs problems and ensuring that it's on the government agenda.

## *2.9 Pan African Conference on Illicit Financial Flows and Taxation Side Session*

AFRODAD co-convened with Tax Justice Network- Africa to host the 7th Pan African Conference (PAC) on IFFs and Tax in Nairobi, Kenya on 1st-3rd October 2019. The conference was held under the theme: "Taxing Intangibles, Financial Technology (FinTech) and the Digitalised Economy: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities for Domestic Revenue Mobilisation in Africa". AFRODAD hosted a side session on how digital technologies facilitate IFFs and it was attended by 28 participants. The overall objective of the PAC was to provide an interactive forum for stakeholders to engage each other and take stock on Africa specific policy progress, challenges and solution in curbing IFFs resulting in taxing an increasingly digitalised global economy. The objective of the side session was to interrogate how digitalized technologies facilitate IFFs and how they can also be used to curtail IFFs.

The participants who attended the Side session were sensitized and capacitated on how digital economies imply on illicit financial flows and how they can also be used to curb illicit financial flows. Participants pledged to push their governments to put in place legislations that govern digital economies and curb illicit financial flows. The topic of the nexus between digital economies and illicit financial flows is a bit complicated thus AFRODAD will continue to capacitate its stakeholders on the topic.

## *2.10 The AFRODAD annual 2019 Summer School*

Under the theme "illicit financial flows and domestic resources mobilisation in the era of digital economies in Africa: prospects and impediments", AFRODAD successfully held its 5th Summer School on 25th-29th November 2019 in Pretoria, South Africa. AFRODAD partnered with its international and continental partners namely: African Tax Administrators Forum (ATAF), UNECA, AU, OECD, Jesuits Network Africa and seasoned international experts in debt and human rights and academics in the designing and presentation of the modules. Participants were drawn from 13 African countries. The objective of the Summer School was to contribute to the development and implementation of transparent, accountable and efficient mechanisms for the mobilization and utilization of both domestic and external financial resources in Africa.



EALA and SADC PF pledged to continue working with AFRODAD in drafting laws on curbing IFFs, governing digital economies and prudent debt management. EALA also indicated its plans to establish a subcommittee that will focus on IFFs and Debt issues. SADC PF indicated that it would soon have legislative powers through transforming into a fully-fledged parliament. This is based on how the MPs have been sensitized on how IFFs are detrimental to development in the EAC region. The Parliamentarians also requested for the continuation of trainings during their sessions.

CSOs committed to making social media updates on debt and IFFs related issues eg facebook, twitter, web- meetings, podcast sessions; Conducting voice pops- randomly picking people from streets to engage in the dialogue on public debt and IFFs; Mass mobilization campaigns on raising debt awareness; in-house trainings at civil society level on IFFs and debt; Including issues of debt and IFFs in primary and secondary schools curriculums; Push for increased transparency in government borrowing (publication of terms of borrowing to the public).



The participants also requested for the establishment of an AFRODAD Alumni group- platform for dialogue on debt and IFFs issues; engaging parliamentarians on IFFS and debt contractions and that AFRODAD should have a Replica of the Summer School at both REC and International level.

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### *2.11. Policy brief on the implications of mining development agreements on tax revenues.*

The policy brief argues that the imprints of neo colonization are clearly visible in the mining agreements signed between host governments and investors. Poor negotiation of mining agreements negatively implies on the amount of revenues collected by host countries as they give away their tax rights.

The objective of the policy brief was to provide solid information to policy makers and influence their decision towards improving contract negotiation and fair tax practices. A policy brief which recommends resources nationalization, clear visions and strategies on mineral resources management, transparency and accountability and improved contract negotiation is available for use. The policy brief is targeted at policy makers especially those who sit in the mining and mineral resources and public finance and budgeting portfolios. For the year 2020, the brief will be part of the advocacy tools of fair taxation and improved mineral resources governance. The brief can also be utilized by CSOs working on tax justice and mineral resources governance.

### *2.12. African Mining Vision studies for West Africa*

Recognizing gaps and realizing the need to improve mineral resource policies, legal, regulatory and administrative frameworks in order to maximise the development outcomes of mineral resources exploitation, African Union Heads of State and Government adopted the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) in 2009 with the goal of promoting “transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation of mineral resources to underpin broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic development”. AFRODAD is conducting eight country studies on the domestication of the AMV in West Africa to determine the extent to which countries are implementing the AMV.

The studies are ongoing but however, the preliminary findings from the drafts have been incorporated in various presentations on mineral resources governance. These researches will be completed in the second quarter of 2020. After their completion, they will be compiled into one regional report which shall be presented and validated before publishing. The regional report shall be used as evidence to pressure West African governments to domesticate the AMV for improved mineral sector revenue collection, management and usage.

### *2.13. Assessing the Political Economy Drivers of Illicit Financial Flows and Corruption and the Nexus between Corruption and Domestic Resource Mobilisation in the SADC Region: The Case of Malawi and Zambia*

In a bid to generate new information on the explanations for IFFs from Africa, AFRODAD commissioned two researches on the “Political Economy Drivers of Illicit Financial Flows and Corruption and the Nexus between Corruption and Domestic Resource Mobilisation in the SADC Region: The Case of Malawi and Zambia”. The studies were conducted on the backdrop that IFFs are mostly explained using economic schools of thought and there are few explanations from other facets such as political economy.

The findings of the researches are were publicized by AFRODAD in Malawi and Zambia with the view to sensitize the citizens and policy makers on the political economy drivers of IFFs and on the relationship between corruption, IFFs and domestic resources mobilisation. Furthermore, findings have been incorporated in various presentations made by AFRODAD during the course of the year. At the invitation of SADC PF AFRODAD will make a presentation on corruption, extractives and domestic resources mobilisation to the parliamentarians. This presentation is based on the two researches.

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#### *2.14. Policy Briefs on Political Economy Drivers of Illicit Financial Flows and Corruption and the Nexus between Corruption and Domestic Resource Mobilisation in the SADC Region: The Case of Malawi and Zambia*

Based on the two researches mentioned above, two policy briefs on Malawi and Zambia respectively have been developed. The policy briefs discuss main findings of the researches and recommendations therein. These policy briefs will play an important role in AFRODAD's advocacy and lobbying national governments to initiate solutions to curb IFFs.

To date copies of the Zambia brief have been printed and distributed to the participants who attended AFRODAD and CTPD side event conducted during the 8th ZAMI in Lusaka, Zambia. Other copies will also be distributed to policymakers and CSOs working on IFFs and DRM. The Malawi briefs will also be printed and launched in the last half of 2019. In 2020, the policy briefs will also be shared to other stakeholders such as policy makers and CSOs.

#### *2.15. Policy Brief on the role fiscal policies in curbing corruption*

During the period under review, a draft policy brief on the role of fiscal policies in curbing IFFs was also produced. The focus on corruption is important given the solemnity of corruption as a component and facilitator of IFFs. The objective of the policy brief was to encourage national governments to increase expenditure on anti-corruption initiatives for reduced corruption. The preliminary findings of the policy brief have been incorporated in the presentation on the nexus between corruption, IFFs and DRM. The policy brief will be used as an advocacy tool to lobby for increased expenditure on anti-corruption activities at various forums.

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### *2.16. Research on "Illicit Financial Flows in the Extractive Sector in Africa: Implications on Industrialisation"*

Following the development of the Terms of Reference to undertake a research on "Illicit Financial Flows in the Extractive Sector in Africa: Implications on Industrialisation", AFRODAD has commenced the research study. The study is focusing on IFFs in the extractive sector as threat to industrialization by draining economies of a potentially rich resource, domestic capital, which is required to promote industrial development. AFRODAD aims to provide solid information to policy makers and influence their decisions towards curbing corruption for effective industrialization of the African continent.

The research will be finalized in the first quarter of 2020. Important to note is that the research comes at an opportune time and it resonates with the 2019 SADC Summit theme on industrialization. The research shall be used to support the industrialization agenda in SADC and Africa.

### *2.17. Trust Africa Workshop on IFFs in West Africa:*

Being known as one the key players on IFF issues, AFRODAD was invited to participate in a meeting organized by Trust Africa on 12th- 13th March, 2019 in Dakar, Senegal. The meeting was aimed at reinforcing initiatives against IFFs practices by bringing activists together and identifying common strategy to address the problem. Based on this meeting, AFRODAD and Trust Africa are members of the Stop the Bleeding Campaign which is a consortium of six Pan African Organisations working on curbing IFFs from the African continent.

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## 3.0 INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC FINANCE

### 3.1. *New Development Bank Annual General Meetings*

AFRODAD joined CSO stakeholders working on the New Development Bank (NDB) at its 4th Annual General Meetings from 31 March to 2 April 2019 in Cape Town, South Africa. AFRODAD particular interests rested on the role of the ARCs role in facilitating finance for African infrastructure and how it can contribute in the fight against inequality and poverty reduction.

The objective of the meeting was to influence NDB management on alternative sustainable financing policies and mechanisms on infrastructure development in Africa. AFRODAD provided an African perspective on NDB's financing through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) raising caution on fiscal risks attached to PPPs and the likelihood of risky contingent liabilities that lead African states in unsustainable debt accrual and servicing. The NDB invited CSOs to give input on sector specific policy issues on sustainable infrastructure financing, development and information disclosure including gender policy review

### 3.2. *Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa – OSISA Regional Debt Conference*

AFRODAD joined various stakeholders and regional CSOs during the regional conference that took place on July 2-3, 2019 in Johannesburg, South Africa. AFRODAD participated in the theme 'Public-private partnership blessing or a curse?' with a specific emphasis on the pros and cons of PPPs in the region. AFRODAD's position is that if African Countries wish to deal with PPPs, there is need to define suitable or appropriate projects that pose less risks and enhance transparency.

### 3.3. *AFRODAD led the drafting of the CSO statement on PPPs*

As a result of the work AFRODAD has done on PPPs, AFRODAD was tasked by other CSOs to lead in drafting of the CSO Statement on the Inaugural Africa Public Private Partnerships Conference , which was submitted to UNECE, UNECA and the government of Uganda at Africa's Inaugural PPP Conference in September 2019. The statement recommended that the IMF and World Bank should not promote more intensive and widespread use of PPPs until the negative issues raised in the CSO statement have been addressed.

Despite the effort of AFRODAD and other CSOs, during the meeting, the World Bank representative promoted PPPs. Notwithstanding the negative feedback, AFRODAD will continue pushing for the address of conditions that make PPPs to be unsuccessful before they are implemented

### 3.4 *Rethinking PPPs AFRODAD – SEATINI*

Recognising the policy thrust that AFRODAD has built over the years, AFRODAD and SEATINI Uganda partnered to enhance the understanding of African CSOs on PPPs in Africa. The Inaugural PPP Webinar dubbed "Rethinking PPPs" was conducted on the 22nd August 2019 with participants from East and Southern Africa as well as Europe.

The objective of the meeting was to deliver the sole presentation of the webinar; (ii) enlighten and bring to participating CSOs and understanding of PPPs and their potential opportunities and impacts to development. Feedback from the webinar indicated that CSOs are yet to grasp the development financing discourse as a whole thus the need for further capacity development since PPPs as financing mechanism remain a very technical area shrouded in financial secrecy.



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### *3.5. Input to the SADC People's Summit Communiqué and SADC Head of Government (HOG) Summit Declaration*

Following Advocacy Initiatives and Research in Malawi and Zimbabwe, AFRODAD presented policy-oriented inputs to the August 12-17th SADC Peoples Summit in which various aspects from the privatisation of public services were allayed. The objective of the meeting was to advocate for sustainable financing for health services.

The Southern Africa Development Community Peoples Summit Communiqué adopted the AFRODAD concerns on privatisation and Public Private Partnerships whilst the Southern Africa Development Community Head Of Governments Declaration also adopted AFRODAD's 2-year long concerns on financing for health services in a sustainable way. SADC' reception of AFRODAD's concerns towards private sector engagement shows how the once government-oriented policy making body is opening up space for technical CSOs to make inputs towards the region's development.

### *3.6. Zimbabwe Social Protection Meeting*

Given AFRODADs technical expertise in financing for development issues, it is party to the Africa Platform for Social Protection as well as the Zimbabwe Platform for Social Protection. It was therefore invited to the Zimbabwe Social protection meeting on 20-21 August 2019 and led discussions on financing for social protection in Zimbabwe through a panel that consisted of the country's Ministries of Finance and Public Works, Labour and Social Welfare. The objective of the meeting was to make input to the Draft African Union Protocol on Social Protection, particularly on areas of its financing. AFRODAD contributed and coordinated together with the Zimbabwe Platform for Social Protection (ZPSP) the 2019 Zimbabwe Social Protection Workshop.

### *3.7. Southern Africa Peoples Solidarity Network*

During the Southern Africa Peoples Solidarity Network on 12-17 August 2019 in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, AFRODAD convened a sideline session of SADC Summit on PPPs and IFFs in the Southern Africa region. Within the session AFRODAD partnered with Oxfam International, Economic Justice Network and Zimbabwe Council of Churches. The objective of the meeting was to sensitize participants from at least 10 countries on the state and trends and impacts of PPPs and IFFs in the region. CSO representatives received policy recommendations that they should propose to their respective governments both at the Summit as well as in their home countries.

### *3.8 International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI)*

AFRODADs work on Aid and Development Effectiveness has been recognised at international level citing its invitation to the IATI Assembly on 11-12 September 2019. IATI is global initiative aimed at improving the transparency of development and humanitarian resources and their results to address poverty and crises in the world. The objective of the meeting was to share AFRODAD perspectives on the state of aid data availability/ use and giving policy recommendations that enhance data use for developmental aid analysis.

There is evidence of increased importance of AFRODAD contribution in shaping the aid and development agenda on the African continent and the subsequent need for enhanced analysis for sector specific development needs; speaking notes that were used at the Assembly can be found here.

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### *3.9. DAC-CSO Reference Group Strategic Meeting*

AFRODAD being party to the Development Assistance Committee Civil Society Reference attended the DAC-CSO RG strategic meeting in Paris, France. The meeting was aimed at developing a grounded midterm strategy for the Reference Group so that it may fulfil its mission in accordance with the DAC-CSO Dialogue Framework. The objective of the meeting was to develop a grounded midterm strategy for the CSO Reference Group so that it may fulfil its mission in influencing the DAC through the DAC-CSO Dialogue Framework.

AFRODAD contributed towards assessing progress on the Reference Group's work since its formation. This included identifying challenges faced and how they were overcome or still need to be overcome. AFRODAD also gave its view of the current development cooperation landscape, shared experiences, advocacy priorities that can be developed and included in the DAC CSO RG mid-term strategy

DAC CSO Reference Group engagement strategy was developed with AFRODAD being one of African CSO leads on Private Sector Instruments, Blended Finance and the DAC.

### *3.10. Reality of AID Meetings*

AFRODAD participated at the Reality of Aid Meetings on the 9th - 12th December 2019 that convened in Nairobi, Kenya. Meetings were in two parts the first being the "Pan African CSO Experts on Financing for Development: The Road towards 2020 Review" held on the 9th and 10th December. The Second was the CSO Intercontinental Dialogue on "Influencing the OECD Development Assistance Committee's work on ODA and Development Finance" held on the 11th and 12th December 2019.

The objective of the meeting was to provide an African CSOs input into the 5th year review of the United Nations Financing for Development Outcome document; strategize on consolidating Africa's CSO participation and voice in the OECD DAC - CSO Forum Reference Group and on the 2020 United Nations Financing for Development; and Identify explicit strategic positions that African CSOs will champion towards proper integration in enhancing Financing for Development for Africa's Development,

Overall, the two meetings consolidated the strategies on how CSOs would engage during the review of the FfD Agenda as well as influencing OECD DAC operational framework to ensure that Southern CSOs voice is listened to while implementing Africa's development agenda and priorities. AFRODAD aims at spearheading policy interventions on PSI and Blended Finance, Development Effectiveness and Debt and Debt Sustainability.

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### *3.11. Paper on the Impact of China EXIM financed projects in Zambia*

A paper on the impact of China EXIM Financed projects was commissioned to build the evidence on emerging lenders and the implications of public finance investments from emerging sources. It will bring context specific and new information to the fore as there has been some knowledge gaps and recycling of the same information.

The paper is also intended to clarify variants of financing mechanisms for investment offered by the China EXIM Bank and their relationship with Zambia's policies aimed at attracting foreign investments. The paper is expected to shade light on what is otherwise not transparent in China EXIM and China Development Bank investment agreements with the government of Zambia.

### *3.12. The Role of the Africa Regional Centre in facilitating BRICS Finance in Africa*

AFRODAD developed a working paper on the Role of the Africa Regional Centre in facilitating BRICS Finance in Africa. Under AFRODAD's scope of work on emerging lenders, AFRODAD is one of the two African CSOs under the Civil BRICS working on the New Development Banks' policies

The objectives of the paper was to interrogate the role of the NDBS's Africa Regional Centre as a development finance institution in facilitating infrastructure financing in the Africa region; assessing the policy and financing mechanisms that the NDB utilizes and assess whether they are sustainably aligned to priorities for infrastructure development in Africa such as Program for Infrastructure Development Agenda (PIDA); developing strategic policy recommendations that influence the delivery of infrastructure through sustainable policy and financing mechanisms. Given that the BRICS are seen as an alternative to the neoliberal agenda of the World Bank Group, it is critical for African CSOs including AFRODAD to critically examine North-South and South-South Cooperation in an objective way that does not further undermine the African development agenda.

### *3.13. Working paper on the impact of Economic Partnership Agreements on regional integration and sustainable development*

The objective of the working paper was to monitor EPA, Trade Finance and Impact on Regional Integration. During the development of the paper, the portfolio shared some pointers with partners including SEATINI and ZCC whose introspections on the issues to be discussed saw AFRODAD being invited for the WTO-CSO Conference. AFRODAD's strategy was mainly on submitting policy recommendations on EPA impacts on regionalism and sustainable trade financing in the region as well as positioning AFRODAD as a policy influencer in the aid for trade debates including organizational funding for the area citing the recognition of the organization's technical inputs to trade financing discussions.

Recognizing that trade is an important aspect of economic development, it is important further research on the recently adopted Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The continental FTA has its merits in trying to unify and enhance trade within the region but it has been built upon a challenging environment in which EPAs and Bilateral Trade Agreements seem to have been benefiting the more from developed nations or regions such as the EU, China, UK, USA. This incongruity has to be analysed for enhanced policy proposition if the continent is to sustainably develop.

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### *3.14. Position paper on Privatisation of Education and Health Services in Malawi and Zimbabwe*

Following policy and advocacy processes in Malawi and Zimbabwe within the 1st and 2nd quarter, the portfolio closed the Privatisation project for the two countries with a position paper. The paper points towards best practices for financing for the two sectors with country partners along with AFRODAD using it as an advocacy tool for sustainable financing for core social services.

Whilst the portfolio's focus has been on education and health, there is room for AFRODAD to expand its horizons within the Privatisation and PPP discourse in the Africa region especially when there is a return in the rise of debt burdens largely driven by financing for infrastructure through PPPs under the auspices of financing the infrastructure gap in the region.

### *3.15. Policy Brief Privatisation of education and health services in Lesotho*

The policy brief highlights the state of privatization of social services in Lesotho. It analyses the policy and legal framework obtaining in the county and how it can be strengthened to protect citizens from negative impacts that can be experienced through private sector involvement. It also assesses the role the Bretton Woods Institutions are playing in promoting widespread privatizations in the country and proffers policy recommendations and alternative financing mechanisms for the two sectors. The paper is under review for advocacy interventions scheduled in 2020.

### *3.16. Aid Profiles 2019*

The annual Aid profiles for Central, Southern, West, North and East Africa Regions have been compiled for AFRODAD as advocacy tools until the next update in May 2020. As Official Development Assistance (ODA) dwindles, there is need for African governments to diversify their domestic resource mobilisation bases to self-wean from dependency on ODA.

### *3.17 Induction and Advocacy workshop for the Zimbabwe Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Primary and Secondary Education in Zimbabwe*

AFRODAD in partnership with the Education Coalition of Zimbabwe and in collaboration with UNICEF convened an Induction and Advocacy workshop of the Zimbabwe Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Primary and Secondary Education in Zimbabwe. The aim of the workshop was to appraise parliamentarians and CSO stakeholders working within education and health on the state of the sector and assist the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee to draft its annual workplan before the year's Parliamentary session starts.

### *3.18 Private Sector in Development Seminar on 26-27 March 2019, Lusaka, Zambia*

AFRODAD contributed at the Private Sector in Development Seminar on 26-27 March 2019 in Lusaka, Zambia through a presentation made on Blended Finance, Basic Concepts and Principles in a panel that included World Bank Zambia and Third World Network – Africa. The seminar, coordinated by Africa's arm of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa) was aimed at developing the knowledge of trade unions and CSOs on different forms of private investments in Africa in order to analyze the role of development financial institutions in finance provision.

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### *3.19 Round Table Discussion on Public Private Partnerships, Harare, Zimbabwe*

AFRODAD took part in a Round Table Discussion on Public Private Partnerships themed "Transparency as a key driver for economic development: Taking a look at Public Private Partnerships and mineral concessions in Zimbabwe". The Roundtable was organised by the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association and the International Senior Lawyers Association in Harare, Zimbabwe.

### *3.20 East Africa Commission Experts Meeting on Trade and Investment, April 2019*

AFRODAD played a critical role of proffering an African position on PPPs at the East Africa Commission Experts Meeting on Trade and Investment held in Nairobi Kenya under the theme "Evolving Trade and Investment Regimes, Implications on East Africa's Realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals". Resulting from the meeting AFRODAD is a focal point for PPPs linking EAC CSOs and Governments especially Francophone ones to the Global PPP Working Groups and policy information dissemination.

### *3.21 Regional WTO – CSO Conference - Challenges for the Multilateral Trading System -Perspectives from Southern Africa 29-31 October 2019*

AFRODAD joined several Southern Africa CSOs on deliberating on the challenges in the Multilateral trading system and gave insights on difficulties brought about in the aid for trade agenda where financing instruments for trade financing are shrouded in lack of transparency and at times with conditionalities that weaken state sovereignty and limited fiscal space.

### *3.22. Non State Actor Consultative Meeting on the new SADC Vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-2030 (21-22 November 2019)*

AFRODAD gave inputs to the Infrastructure Pillar of the new vision and strategy which is heavily tied on PPPs. AFRODAD shared its CSO position on PPPs and recommended for comprehensive cost benefit analysis for best procurement options before engaging in PPPs.

## **IV. COMMUNICATION**

The Communications Department of AFRODAD is the Silo-Bridge between the main thematic focuses and it supports research, lobby and advocacy as well as internal and external communications. Activities were also geared towards raising the organization's profile.

Below is the contribution that the communication team rendered towards programme work and to the organisation generally during 2019

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## 4.1 Highlights & AFRODEBT

Forty Three (43) issues of the weekly Highlights were developed and distributed online/ mailing list. Plans were under way to move from sharing the PDF format to another mailing system that allows advanced monitoring. Basically, allowing tracking results rather than stopping at activity level. Two suggestions were submitted by the communication department ie: MailChimp and Constant Contact but management suggested that this step would be put on hold as feedback showed that newsletter recipients liked the current single-page Highlights version.

Quarterly AFRODEBT volumes were also compiled and are resident on the website.

## 4.2 Videos

Numerous videos have been produced in the course of the year. These videos were shared on AFRODAD's social media channels: YouTube, Twitter and Facebook. Videos are usually captured for different purposes including i. Tracking activity's immediate outcomes; ii. Recording commitments by participants to facilitate follow-up and iii. Use as evidence to strengthen reporting.

- i. Video on Illicit Financial Flows and Development in Malawi.
- ii. Video on how money stolen through IFFs would otherwise be used to serve citizens through healthcare, education and livelihood.
- iii. Digital economy and IFFs part I and part II.
- iv. Linkages between debt and IFFs.
- v. Feedback: IFFs Dialogue\_ participant from Ghana.
- vi. IFFs dialogue 2019: Feedback from Zambia.
- vii. IFFs dialogue 2019: Feedback from Benin.
- viii. IFFs dialogue: Feedback from Zambian MP.
- ix. IFFs dialogue 2019: Feedback from Burundian MP.
- x. IFFs dialogue 2019: Feedback from Ugandan MP.
- xi. Reflection with MPs who attended the IFFs dialogue 2019.
- xii. Invitation by SADC to build members capacity.
- xiii. Media training in Malawi: participants' feedback I; feedback II; feedback III; Feedback IV; Feedback V.
- xiv. Media training in Malawi: Facilitators feedback: Feedback I; Feedback II;
- xv. Media training Malawi: Feedback from Deputy Director, division of debt management, Malawi's Ministry of finance.
- xvi. Summer School 2019: Participants' Feedback I; Feedback II a; Feedback II b; Feedback III; Feedback IV; Feedback V; Feedback VI; Feedback VII; Feedback VIII.
- xvii. IFFs works against human rights.
- xviii. Reckless borrowing hampers governments' ability to discharge its human rights obligations.
- xix. Global week action against inequality.

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### *4.3. Social media*

AFRODAD remains visible on its social channels such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. This year socials reached more than 10,000 followers. Feedback from people simply appreciating content shared on social media to asking more questions and engaging in conversation.

### *4.4. The website*

The organization has a new website with both the English and French.

### *4.5. Campaigns*

The #AfroShift campaign is still under the planning stage and it will be launched next year. It will be evaluated at the end of the current organizational strategic plan.

### *4.6. Design work*

As mandated department carried out designs of documents/materials including: MEFMI study "Assessing of National financing and investments policies in EAC and SADC; Generic portfolio banners for DRM and Debt management; Webinar on PPPs (flyer); Africa Debt Risk graphic map; Summer School Banner and Flyer; Policy Brief: "Public Finance Management"; Logistics note template for Finance; Generic AFRODAD Backdrop banner for panel meetings; IMF Side event flyers; Email Newsletter template; infographics and the Debt and Human Rights in Zimbabwe study

### *4.7. Translation:*

Translation of most Highlights and the website continues to be handled in-house.

Plans are underway to translate more publicity materials to French, especially for the debt management portfolio which is working with francophone countries.

## **V. INSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Institutional and organizational development focussed on activities that raised crucial issues for the institutional and organizational development of AFRODAD in the short and long term. Apart from two Board meetings during the year AFRODAD also underwent two evaluations: the Mid-Term Strategic Plan Review and the Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) undertaken by Diakonia. Issues raised will be carried forward for implementation during 2020 and beyond.

## 5.1 Board Meetings outcomes:

The September 2019 face to face Board meeting was substantive and provided guidance on the following critical aspects of AFRODAD organizational and institutional development which needed attention:

i. In light of the presentation by the Executive Director on the difficult operating environment, the need to have a minimum presence in Zimbabwe had to be pursued with renewed urgency. In that regard options for moving the AFRODAD Office out of Zimbabwe and strengthening of the current outposts (Cameroon and Guinea) in the context of the dispersion model are now more urgent;

ii. Given the rise of China as a main African debtor in the emerging debt crisis, it is imperative that AFRODAD contribute to the continent's better understanding of the current role of China as a Creditor in Africa and potential consequences;

iii. Given the progress being made in developing and internalizing the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning in AFRODAD, impact reporting will become increasingly important. In that regard the Board emphasised that Secretariat reporting on activities undertaken should give insight into: AFRODAD influence on policy, contribution to knowledge (research and knowledge dissemination) and strengthening of civil society to secure its engagement with duty bearers on an informed basis;

iv. The Board also in principle approved the proposed introduction of sexual harassment policy and media guidelines subject to their crystallization;

v. In order to increase the efficiency of the Board, Terms of Reference for the role of the Board Committees needed to be finalized and agreed to by the Board;

vi. In order to concretise the desire to increase the AFRODAD African Footprint, Board members need to be recruited from Central and West Africa where AFRODAD is now consolidating its presence. Preference should be towards women in order to secure an appropriate gender balance of the Board.

### 5.2.f The Medium Term Evaluation

The Medium Term Evaluation (MTR) raised the following issues which require attention:

i. While the dispersion model provides potential for financial and technical efficiency for expanding the AFRODAD African Footprint, the model should have a plan and benchmarks for bringing it to scale with clear organizational form. New technology should be adopted to make the model operate efficiently both in human and financial resources management (operational efficiency and financial sustainability) It should be well documented in order to secure learning;

ii. The dispersion model is also a way towards financial sustainability as the organization will be able to tap into local resources in the locations where the AFRODAD staff/offices will be. However, this must be properly planned, managed and documented.

iii. AFRODAD should review partnership engagement strategies to secure a common basis (e.g. the Rights Based Approach or ideology) in order to secure higher activity impact.



### 5.3 The Organizational Capacity Assessment

The Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA) undertaken during the year led by Diakonia raised the following issues to be addressed:

- i. As a Pan-African organization AFRODAD should find creative ways of working in the sub-regional and continental policy spaces. In that regard an inventory of sub-regional and continental policy spaces should be examined and entry points utilized;
- ii. The role of AFRODAD as a Lobby and Advocacy organization should be well articulated and internalized to secure achievement of stated outcomes;
- iii. There is a need to deepen M&E and Learning framework and its internalization by Staff and Board;
- iv. The Rights Approach should be articulated, internalised and put into place;
- v. There is need for AFRODAD to develop regenerative capacities which include ability of the organization to cross traditional boundaries or engage in boundary spanning activities: generate the capacity to learn how to learn;
- vi. It will be essential to find common ground as a basis for partnerships with other organizations.

