



# Southern Africa People's Solidarity Network (SAPSN)

## SADC People's Summit 2020 – side event for climate, environment, health and agriculture rapporteurs' DRAFT Report



This event Financed by:



## Contents

<b>1 LIST OF TABLES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.1 SUB THEME FOR THE SIDE VIRTUE PANEL DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.2 NAMES OF PANEL DISCUSSANTS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.3 MODERATION AND CONVENER OF THE EVENT .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.4 PARTICIPANTS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.5 SPONSORSHIP .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3 PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PANELLISTS AND KEY OUTCOMES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.1 PRESENTATION BY NGOCC .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.2 PRESENTATION BY PELUM- AGRIC SECTOR .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3.3 PRESENTATION BY WATERAID .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3.4 PRESENTATION BY RURAL WOMEN ASSEMBLY .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>3.5 PRESENTATION BY ACTIONAID .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.6 PRESENTATION BY ZAMBIA CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORK (ZCCN).....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>3.7 PRESENTATION BY YOUNG EMERGING FARMERS INITIATIVE- YOUTH PARTICIPATION .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4 ISSUES RAISED BY THE PARTICIPANTS DURING THE DISCUSSIONS .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>5 RESOLUTIONS AND SUBMISSIONS FROM THE MEETING.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>5.1 GENDER RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>5.2 AGRICULTURE RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.3 WASH RECOMMENDATION .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.4 CLIMATE CHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.5 YOUTH RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.6 TRADE RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.7 EDUCATION RECOMMENDATION.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.8 HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5.9 CROSS CUTTING ISSUES .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>6 PANEL DISCUSSION IN PICTURE.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>7 ANNEX 1 .....</b>	<b>18</b>

## 1 List of Tables

---

Table 1; Panellists .....	5
---------------------------	---

## 2 Introduction and Background

---

The Southern Africa Development Committee (SADC) People's Summit, Maputo/Virtue was held from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 under the theme **"Towards a People Centred Post-COVID 19 Recovery Plan for Southern Africa"**

As the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Heads of states meets in Maputo, Mozambique August 2020, the ordinary people and communities of the Southern Africa will also converge on various online virtual platforms and other means during the period of SADC Heads of States itself under the auspices of the Southern Africa People's Solidarity Network (SAPSN) to reclaim SADC Resources for SADC peoples' development and solidarity.

The People's Summit serves as a social movement planting and strengthening the work of the forums in the SADC region. Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development (ZIMCODD) serves as the SAPSN regional secretariat.

Established and founded in year 2000 by all progressive CSOs and Social movement in SADC

The 2020 summit will be held under the central theme:" SADC @40: TOWARDS A PEOPLE-CENTERED POST-COVID RECOVERY PLAN" Zambia Social forum (ZAMSOF) is anchoring the participation of Zambian CSOs and social movements and progressive groups during the upcoming SADC People's Summit processes.

The event was being held under a number of thematic areas highlighting the impact of COVID-19 people's lives in various aspects. One of the side event was a virtue panel discussion was looking at issues relating to food sovereignty, climate justice & cooperate interest in the agriculture sector i.e. the seed and food sector. Others issues discussed were related to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Health as they related to the pandemic. Another important aspect that was being addressed was how the marginalised citizens/residents of the SADC region & Zambia in particular were coping as sought answers from their duty bearers.

Therefore, this report outlines the proceedings and key outcomes from the virtue side meeting that brought together various panellists under the above mentioned thematic area.

### 2.1 Sub theme for the side virtue panel discussion

The virtue panel discussion was being held under the theme: **Covid-19: 'Building Solidarity amidst COVID 19 surge': Implications and Responses for SADC**. This theme aimed at promoting economic empowerment for community members to cope with the adverse impacts of COVID-19 as well as strengthening public participation in policy and legislative process. The other aspect was calling for duty bearers to create a culture of accountability and uphold sovereignty of citizens.

### 2.2 Names of Panel Discussants

The panellists were drawn from various organisations and areas of expertise to provide insights on the theme that was under discussion. Below is the list of the discussants:

Table 1; Panellists

Name	Name of Organisation	Designation/brief profile
Muketoi Wamunyima	PELUM Zambia	Country Coordinator of with experience in Policy Analysis and budget tracking.
Lydia Chibambo	Zambia Climate Change Network (ZCCN)	Climate Change advocate and an energy and WASH specialist.
Geofrey Sinzala –representing Nalucha Nganga Ziba-Country Director	ActionAid Zambia	Programmes Coordinator Economic policy analyst and management
Samuel Mwanakatwe	Non-Governmental Organisation Coordinating Committee (NGOCC)	Programme Officer-Knowledge Management
Chitimbwa Chifunda	Water Aid Zambia	Head of Policy Communication and Campaigns
Susan Chilala	Rural Women Assembly	Coordinator
Staney Mutale	Young Emerging Farmers Initiative	Member

### 2.3 Moderation and Convener of the Event

The event was moderated by Gershom Kabaso Jr, National Coordinator for the Zambia Social Forum (ZAMSOF) Zambia Social forum (ZAMSOF) is anchoring the participation of Zambian CSOs and social movements and progressive groups during the upcoming SADC People’s Summit processes and organised by Miga Wilfred Programmes officer at PELUM Zambia

### 2.4 Participants

About 130 participants joined the virtue side meeting from countries such as Zambia, Mozambique and Lesotho

The event was moderated by Gershom Kabaso Jr, National Coordinator for the Zambia Social Forum (ZAMSOF) and organised by Miga Wilfred Programmes officer at PELUM Zambia

### 2.5 Sponsorship

The event was financially supported by ActionAid Zambia and Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung of South Africa. The side meeting was made possible with the support from Caritas Zambia and WaterAid Zambia.



Courtesy Miga.W

### 3 Presentations from the Panellists and Key outcomes

This section provides some insights from various organisations in line with the theme that was under discussion.

#### 3.1 Presentation [by NGOCC](#)

**Presenter:** Samuel Mwanakatwe –Programme Officer - Knowledge Management

Presentation provided an overview of the work of the NGOCC and key thematic areas operating in

#### **Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- The global COVID-19 pandemic has affected all people, however negative effects of the pandemic have been felt differently by women and girls because women bear the face of poverty in Zambia and so with this pandemic, more women have become more impoverished.
- This has been attributed to the decline in economic activities as a result of the restrictions under COVID-19 guidelines; majority of women are in informal markets and so there's a decline in people purchasing their merchandise, job losses, salary cuts, etc.
- There's a reduction in access to Sexual Reproductive Health Services due to less budget allocation
- The partial opening of schools has brought about an increase in child marriages and teenage pregnancies. According to reports received, about 70 teen age pregnancies have been recorded in Rufunsa district while 108 cases were recorded in Pemba district.

- Restrictions on movements and loss of incomes have brought about increased cases in Gender Based Violence (GBV) especially Violence Against Women (VAW) and sexual violence due to tensions arising from loss of incomes in homes.
- With the COVID-19 restrictions women have further been affected in political and other governance structures. Politically, the space for women to market themselves as candidates has reduced due to restrictions on public gatherings.
- Non Operationalisation of the Gender Equity and Equality (GEA) Act, has contributed to the challenges outlined above
- The Anti-GBV Act of 2011 has not been implemented fully due to inadequate funding. Areas that have been affected are; sensitization programmes on the Act and establishment of the shelters for survivors of GBV.

#### **Call to action at National level:**

- Operationalisation of the Gender Equity and Equality (GEA) Act No. 22 of 2015 and facilitation of the establishment of Gender Commission. This Act provides for gender mainstreaming in policies and budgets planning to ensure gender justice. Delay in operationalising this Act has hampered the progress that women are supposed to make in a number of areas of concern outlined and this has been further hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Increased funding for the implementation of the Anti –GBV Act of 2011. Under this Act, there are provisions for safety shelters for GBV survivors but due to lack of sensitization, most of the survivors are not aware of these shelters.
- There’s need to replicate the SADC Model Law on Child Marriage. Zambia and Mozambique have been ranked the highest in the region on child marriage with the prevalence rate of about 45%. Once this law is domesticated it is hoped that the prevalence rate might reduce to below 40%. This has also been outlined in the National Strategic Plan on Child Marriage of 2016-2021. The NGOCC hopes that at the end of this strategic plan, there will be a reduction in child marriages to below 40%.
- NGOCC called upon Member States in the region to make ICT services and products accessible through reduced prices. These services have remained expensive in the region and so with the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become a **new normal** way of living for people to now rely so much on ICT for their meetings, interactions and other developmental programmes.
- Called upon the Government and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engender the Political Bill to have a clause that will compel political parties to adopt a certain threshold of women to qualify for elections especially given the setback that has come with the COVID-19 and beyond.

### **3.2 Presentation by PELUM- AGRIC Sector**

**Presenter:** Muketoi Wamunyima- Country Coordinator

Provided an overview of PELUM

#### **Issues raised:**

- Agriculture sector serves about 70% of the SADC population with regards to food, incomes and employment

- Agriculture sector contributes between 4-24% of GDP in the SADC member countries. This means that agriculture has a huge potential in social, economic development and social stability as well as improving the health status of the people.
- Budget allocation to the Agriculture sector is still low at less than 10% of the national budget. This is below the Maputo Agreement where nations agreed to allocate at least 10% of national budget to the sector.

### **Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Huge impact of COVID-19 in the Sector such as:

- The sector has been grappling with issues of climate change and HIV/AIDS in terms of Labour supply
- COVID-19 has brought about a huge challenge on how to contain with other issues already affecting the sector such as HIV/AIDS and Climate Change.
- Restrictions in movements between borders and in some countries within the countries has affected regional trade as well as commodity movement in the sector. This has also brought about a huge risk on regional food security, economic growth and social stability
- Farmers' access to markets and inputs have been affected as a result of these restrictions in movements.
- State of Food and Nutrition Security – A paper published by a coalition of CSOs and research institutions entitled “False Promises”, looking at AGRA’s work in Africa to improve farmers’ livelihoods through increased productivity by empowering about 30 million small producer farmers by 2020. The report observes that this not been attained as farmers still remain poor with low incomes and their welfare not improved and becoming over dependent on Farmers Input Support Programs pushing the agenda of chemical fertilizers.
- Food insecurity has also increased resulting in undernutrition. According to the 2020 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO); states that the number of people experiencing hunger globally has been increasing since 2014, about 750 million people worldwide (1 person out of 10 experience severe levels of food insecurity). Nutrition status of the most vulnerable populations will increase further due to the health, social and economic impact of the COVID-19.
- Therefore, the state of food and nutrition worldwide is still under threat and with the COVID-19 pandemic the situation is expected to worsen.

### **Call to action to mitigate the impact of COVID-19:**

A strategic rethink of our agriculture sector and our food systems in general is needed. We need;

- Increased budget allocation to the sector in areas of research, extension and innovation.
- Enhance Farmer participation especially women and youth in the sector not only in the production but also in the planning and in the decision making processes.
- Promote the Farmer managed seed systems – these include both crop and animal seeds
- Promote and recognise the role of indigenous seed in food and nutrition security
- Promote sustainable Agriculture practices such as organic farming, Agroecology and Agro-Forestry
- Promote Farmers Rights
- Enhance farmers’ rights under the SADC policies by developing systems of identifying and certifying indigenous seed
- Enhanced local economies through promotion of local products to protect the farmers from the observed shocks such as COVID-19

### **3.3 Presentation by WaterAid**

#### **Presenter: Chitimbwa Chifunda**

Overview of the organisation

#### **Issues raised:**

- Water is a Human Right and so access to these services is central to living a life of dignity and upholds human rights
- WASH services are in the first line of defence in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and other water related diseases such as cholera. Recommended measures such as handwashing require access to water supply
- Climate change has had negative effects on water – an example of the 2018-2019 droughts affected both the Agriculture and Energy Sectors – resulting in reduced economic activities
- Debt burden is high Zambia- 78% of GDP
- Decline in economic activities at household level due loss of employment and business

#### **Results:**

- Reduced economies affects social services provision such as WASH, education and Health
- In Zambia access to WASH services is as follows:
  - Access to Water Supply – 72%
  - Access to Sanitation – 54%
  - Access to Hygiene -54%

Once this data is disaggregated, in the rural areas, access to these services is much lower

- Limited access to WASH services increases vulnerability to people living with disabilities and other marginalised populations
- Economic vulnerability at household level affects access to food

#### **Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- WaterAid conducted a COVID-19 vulnerability assessment and the results indicated that social services such as WASH and Education have been highly affected by the pandemic and lack of access to these affect persons living with disabilities most.
- Economic vulnerability – People highly affected are those in informal settlements and living in densely populated areas. Due to reduced incomes and work stoppages has brought about challenges to access to food.
- Budget analysis conducted reveals that WASH sector is highly underfunded - according to the EThekwini declaration, countries are supposed to be spending 0.5% of national budgets on WASH expenditure but for Zambia the case is different. Under-funding to the sector is a big threat to WASH interventions
- According to the World Bank (WB) Report states that; it is estimated that Zambia needs to spend about USD25 per person annually to attain WASH related SDGs, however, Zambia currently spends about USD5 per person annually on WASH investment.
- Overall levels of investments in the WASH sector are very low, this is against the EThekwini declaration.

#### **Call to action:**

- Member States to scale up financing and funding to the sector and also re-fencing of the budgets to avoid these funds being diverted to other expenditures or budget lines

- Increased budget allocation according to the EThekweni declaration of 0.5% of national budget allocation
- Scaling up of hygiene interventions is critical in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic
- Since there's no cure yet for COVID-19, member states need to prioritise WASH services provision to curb the pandemic through funding and budgeting.

### **3.4 Presentation by Rural Women Assembly**

**Presenter:** Susan Chilala

Overview of the organisations

#### **Issues raised:**

- Women contribute 70% of the labour force in the Agriculture sector
- About 60-80% of food production is through Agriculture
- Women still face the challenges of land ownership

#### **Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic**

- Rural women facing challenges with access to information on COVID-19 due to lack of ICT services and products such as smart phones and other platforms
- With the support from OXFAM, the Rural Women Assembly distributed smart phones for easy communication. However, this intervention was done at a small scale as only one rural district received these phones.
- Communication has been a big challenge as most of the rural farmers rely so much on one on one meetings but with the restrictions and lack of gadgets for online platforms there's an information gap that has come up as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Partial lock down instituted in March affected farmers because of restrictions in movement in terms to access to markets. Farmers have been disadvantaged by the people who were coming to buy their produces and this was at lower price.
- Lack of information on COVID-19 in rural areas when the pandemic was reported in Zambia. This has created a myth among rural populations that COVID-19 is for urban areas only. As result of this information gap the virus has now spread to all the parts of the country.
- High cost of transportation has also been reported due to restrictions in movements. Farmers have to look for markets for their produce
- Decline in access to markets has resulted in loss of perishable crops
- Instability in the United States Dollar (US\$) to the Kwacha (ZMW) has resulted in increased prices in commodities
- Reduced Income Generating Activities (IGA) meetings due to COVID-19 guidelines
- Decline in accessing health facilities for fear of being quarantined, staying even if not feeling well placing a huge burden on women as they have to take care of the sick at home
- Food security- rural women farmers might sale the most of their seeds to cushion the impact of COVID-19 on their reduced incomes. This will create a crisis on the seeds to be used in the coming farming season.

#### **Call to action:**

- Improved information flow by having structures on the ground for people to make informed decisions. and the same time improved interventions in the rural areas
- Promote farmer managed seed at household level.

- Mainstreaming the aspect of COVID-19 in programmes such as FISP which is currently not being done.

### **3.5 Presentation by ActionAid**

**Presenter: Geoffrey Sinzala**

Overview of the organisation

#### **Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Restrictions on the movements that have been put in place to curb the spread of the virus have brought about a number of social and economic challenges:

- Reduction in access to basic needs
- Loss of employment
- Most of the communities in the rural areas lack access to clean and safe water supply especially women and girls.
- Lack of accountability on the resources being donated to the Ministry of Health towards support in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the information dissemination concerning the pandemic is being conducted in the urban areas while the rural areas have no access to the information as well as materials needed to fight the pandemic
- Most of the services being provided under the COVID-19 response are not gender responsive
- observed relaxation in devolving the plans due to lack of resources

#### **Call to action:**

- Member States to come up with mechanisms in ensuring that rural people have access to information on the prevention and access to mitigation measures against COVID-19.
- Government to come up with a policy that will ensure that small scale farmers have access to markets with regards to supplying their produces to the chain stores amidst this COVID-19 pandemic. Member States to ensure that farmers thrive during this period with regards to access to markets.
- Inclusion of small scale farmers in planning and budgeting processes for enhanced key areas such as extension services which are key to farmer education. An observation has been made that over the years most of these services are not gender responsive as women have to travel long distances to access these services because of the ratio of one Extension Officer to farmers is very high.
- SADC to ensure that member states comply to and domesticate a number of resolutions from the Summits
- Governments to minimise misuse of public funds –systems to be put in place and improved service levels as well as high level of integrity
- Parliamentarians need to play their critical role in offering oversights on how these governments manage public resources

### 3.6 Presentation by Zambia Climate Change Network (ZCCN)

**Presenter:** Lydia Chibambo

Overview of the organisation

#### Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic

- The SADC region is grappling with two key issues and these are; climate change and COVID-19
- Both COVID-19 and climate change have brought about displacements among people's livelihoods
- Paid to tribute to the regional response programmes towards the COVID-19, however,

#### Call to action:

- make developmental agenda adaptive to calamities such as climate change and COVID 19
- increased financing to invest in climate adaptive interventions
- access to early warning system inform people and the regional for enhanced preparedness to mitigate vulnerabilities.

### 3.7 Presentation by Young Emerging Farmers Initiative- Youth Participation

**Presenter:** Stanley Mutale

#### Issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic

- There's need to assessing the opportunities that the pandemic has brought with regards to meeting local demands on farming produce
- There's need to re-look at the incentives
- There have been calls for youths to participate in Agriculture.

## 4 Issues raised by the Participants during the discussions

---

#### **ISSUES AND COMMENT RAISED IN THE CHAT BOX AS CAPTURED FROM THE RERCODING**

11:35:40 From **charles k.mulila** : lam happy to be in. Solidarity amidst covid-19 is leaving farmers in some peri-urban areas here in mufulira who are lacking information due to restrictive measure of social distancing and lack of funding from cooperating partners. The panellists how is the situation else where

11:35:49 From **Sara Longwe** : I hope the presentations will touch what can be done now that Covid-19 is upon us. Could give examples that Pelum or others in Agric sector have done esp. on rural areas. SarazM

11:36:41 From **Mate Albert** : talking about farmers how do we improve the reach out

11:38:43 From **Planned Governance Network** : greetings, it is important to ensure there is no food crisis. subsistence farmers need support during this period in order to get them to continue food production.

11:40:51 From **Planned Governance Network** : transportation to markets is an issue that needs to be addressed as limited movements may not enable all produce to reach the market. institutions such as Food Reserve Agency can be used

11:41:21 From **Planned Governance Network** : regional institutions operating the same way at SADC can also be used

11:43:37 From **Planned Governance Network** : the issue of agroecology is important. these farming methods are not only affordable especially for subsistence farmers, producing household and national food, it has an aspect of nutrition, and also resiliency

11:46:30 From **Planned Governance Network** : in this way women farmers are cushioned when government supports agroecology extension and inputs such as organization manure, farmer managed seed systems to

enable non-GMO seed to be sold , as well as share the knowledge of agroecology in the education systems to build interest from the youths

11:50:31 From **Charles k.mulila** : Water aid quite elaborate ,there must be more emphasis in the cleanliness of public toilets because that is where covid -19 is eminent.

11:50:32 From **YVONNE** : Great presentation WaterAid. The only solution in prevention of Covid-19 is Hand Wash and Masking up.

11:51:21 From **Mate Albert** : Support to smallholder farmers to embrace agroecology and key is to promote this through training and rechaning out to women and youth

11:53:22 From **Mate Albert** : Great presentation from PELUM -Muketoi

11:57:43 From **Planned Governance Network** : we did a research on Effects of Women Traders. the supply chain of food products which raised prices for. period of time. it was also a challenge to access some of the products they sell as farmers either did not supply or were affected by Covid 19 financially . women and their households have insufficient food and it has led to food insecurity at household level due to the effect on their disposable income and markets for their good

12:00:23 From **Miga** : You are right PGN, indeed food and nutrition security is at risk now. But we should now begin to embrace agri business aspects so that we begin to grow crops that are fr sell as well as for consumption.

12:00:35 From **charles k.mulila** : Agroecology approach will only succeed if we overcome political Economy obstacles to change.Charles mulila

12:02:56 From **Planned Governance Network** : agriculture as a business is paramount to its growth. this will not only encourage the financial sector to provide funds to subsistence farmers.but also encourage youths as they will know they can earn an [income.it](#) is important to realise agriculture is a business beyond meeting food security.

12:03:52 From **YVONNE** : CWEO is currently looking at how SMEs have been affected with their businesses due to C-19. All are complaining about increased princes, Lack of material and financial support from CSOs as we have also been badly affected as donor fund for most activities has not been coming. As CSOs can we come up with strategies that sustain us in absence of donors such as IGAs.

12:05:35 From **Miga** : CWEO you are right but we should not forget our core business and put up a strategy that can sustain the actions that we do beyond project life

12:06:22 From **Miga** : PGN True youth can only come in once they see it as a business and some incentives are put in place

12:06:52 From **charles k.mulila** : Food security must be aligned to Food Sovereignty in terms of local production methods,who produces the food and how to market the produces minus determining the price of commodity by govt.

12:07:20 From **Mate Albert** : I agree with Miga in as much as we look at short term measures to mitigate C19 taking forward our core business will sustain

12:08:08 From **Sara Longwe** : Rural women assembly should also record what rural areas are doing in helping themselves bcoz modern means are out of their reach - we could see that old methods of dealing with pandemics have helped them and these could be popularised for easy use and are affordable. Sara ZM

12:09:10 From **Mate Albert** : RWA how do you reach out to your members for your operations

12:10:26 From **charles k.mulila** : For sure suzen information is key .We have a problem in our area though we do radio programs on agriculture and impact of covid -19 on our local farmers but farmers here have no access to smart phones and the radio network is bad in rural ares.

12:11:59 From **YVONNE** : The fact is we don't know if C-19 will and when it will go. Us we live in the new normal can we look at both short and long term solutions. If this pandemic goes on for next year, we will end up without food on selves and homes as well. As farmer movements lets make sure that our farmers adhere to health regulations and get back in the field.

12:17:14 From **Sara Longwe** : Perhaps in urban areas middle class homes could be approached to allow trusted low income women to use the gardens for growing veges - Pelum, RWA, WaterAid could start it on pilot basis. SarazM

12:20:02 From **charles k.mulila : Suzen** ,how can our farmers in mufulira be assisted in terms communication gadgets .I know it may not be you catchment area but how can the we link them to would be in a position to help.These are very hard working women farmers.

12:23:32 From **Simon** : It should be noted that one of the key lessons arising from Covid 19 impacts on

agriculture is that we need sustainable locally based food production and supply systems. The stimulus packages have not addressed the issue of building resilient food systems

12:31:29 From **Angela Mwale** : In as much as this covid-19 has its negative impact, we need also to look at the opportunities it is creating for our small scale farmers. More innovative solutions are inevitable right now

12:35:07 From **Simon** : Angela u are right, among the opportunities that we have is that of local produce to be supplied in the South African chains stores such as shoprite

12:39:30 From **charles k.mulila** : Lets promote local foods to supply our malls.Covid-19 will make us run away from imported foods and it is an advantage to promote organic farming.

12:41:13 From **Misheck Kamema Kumwenda** : organic farming is the way to go.

12:51:09 From **Sara Longwe** : I made some suggestions on finding out how rural areas are coping the pandemic any response from RWA and Pelum? -

12:53:28 From **Planned Governance Network** : rural areas are having transportation challenges. produce that is perishable are being lost while funds for paying transportation are limited due to low sales

12:53:48 From **charles k.mulila** : Truly madam Pamela chisanga because in our case our women farmers are scared about the pandemic because no one from the ministry of health goes there to share the dos and don'ts.However despite funding challenges we do try to share a materials and information that we get hold of.

**Charles Mulila**

12:54:50 FroZOOM m **Planned Governance Network** : challenges of meeting basic needs by young women have no source of income to conduct further trade and farming. there is a level of food insecurity

12:57:07 From **Simon** : Pamela, ZCCN did a case study with CTPD that is about to be released shows that small scale farmers had challenges to transport their produce to places such as Lusaka while others had challenges to have labour for harvesting

12:57:24 From **Planned Governance Network** : Sara its feasible for leased farms to waive their costs especially to women and youths. we have formed some networks in Eastern and North western to support youths conduct their farming activities on joint farmland

12:59:53 From **Planned Governance Network** : there is need for an aspect of information on goods available in farming areas to allow institutions that are able to subsidise on transport of relevant goods to avoid food insecurity.

13:03:29 From **Angela Mwale** : Building local networks especially that there's restrictions in movements

13:03:36 From **Sara Longwe** : Thanks all

## 5 Resolutions and Submissions from the Meeting

---

### 5.1 Gender Recommendations

- Operationalization of the Gender Equity and fully implement the gender law to facilitate the mainstreaming of gender in all policies legislation programs and budgets.
- SADC to facilitate the establishment of gender Commission in all member state.
- Encourage and support domestication of SADC model law on child.

## **5.2 Agriculture Recommendations**

- -Need to increase the budget allocation to improve extension services and other sustainable forms of agriculture such as agroecology and organic.
- -Promote farmer managed seed for food and nutrition security and sovereignty.
- -Improved ICT channels and technologies especially for the rural communities amidst COVID 19.
- -Strengthening local agriculture value chains for social economic resilience building for food producers.

## **5.3 WASH Recommendation**

- Increased budget allocation to the WASH sector in accordance with the e-Thekwini declaration of 2008 and allocate 0.5% national budget allocation in all SADC Countries.
- Prioritize and scale up WASH intervention amidst COVID 19 as the first line of defense

## **5.4 Climate Change Recommendations**

- Promote Climate response package amid COVID 19 and make developmental agenda adaptive to calamities.
- Improved information structures and processes on early warning system to reduce vulnerability for communities in member states.
- Provide technical support for SADC member countries on resource mobilization to improve access funds such as the GCF.

## **5.5 Youth Recommendations**

- Call to incentivize the agriculture sector for the youths.
- Provide an enabling environment for youth participation in decision making process, political and economic for youth movements, activists and CSOs.

## **5.6 Trade Recommendations**

- SADC to accelerate the implementation of simplified regional regime to facilitate the automation trade processes and documentation for small cross boarder traders.

## **5.7 Education Recommendation**

- Increase budget allocation to the education sector from the current 12.4% to at least 20% as stipulated in the SADC and Cairo protocols.
- Prioritize life skills (practical skills) among the learners in all levels of education amidst the COVID 19 for sustainable development

## **5.8 Health Recommendations**

- Improve access and availability of spaces for adolescents and young people especially girls and young women in youth friendly services in health facilities.

- Improve health infrastructure at all levels to respond to emergency outbreaks such as COVID 19, Cholera and Typhoid.

## **5.9 CROSS CUTTING ISSUES**

- Strict measure for SADC countries to ensure local and international investment adheres to international and regional guidelines for responsive land based investment.
- Inadequate financing increases vulnerability to access to services such the disability in WASH sectors.
- Outbreak of COVID 19 has impacted negatively on the Economic status especially women.
- Loose of income and decreased access to services risks increased violence against women amidst COVID 19.
- Ensure effective Accountability mechanism and transparency to resources allocated for COVID 19 for all SADC members' state as a post recovery plan.
- Act within the laws or legal framework to combat COVID 19.

## 6 Panel Discussion in picture

---



Courtesy: Miga. W

## 7 Annex 1

---

### Participant list

Name	Organisation	Contacts
Muketoi Wamunyima	PELUM Zambia	0977700034, muketoi@pelumzambia.org
Margret Zulu	Report writing	0977702061 marggiezulu@gmail.com
Lydia Chibambo	ZCCN	0979940747 lydiachibambo@yahoo.co.uk
Gershom Kabaso	ZAMSOF	097746728
Sharonm Mwamba	AAZ	0966220387
Ali Kaunda	ZCCN	0976539552
Patrick Kabanda	ZCCN	0978574924
Susan Chilala	RWAZ	0977585126
Samuel Mwanakatwe	NGOCC	0977170772
Miga Wilfred	PELUM Zambia	0975133453
Stanley Mutale	YEFI	09667555435
Simon Mwamba	ZCCN	0976900567