



Annual Report





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# Executive Director's Remarks

It has been yet another interesting year across Africa. Our focus as an organisation was mostly on contributing towards the process of inclusive change across all our programming areas. In discussions with colleagues and donors, I realised that maybe we have not taken time to really clarify who we are. We are a non-partisan, independent, social and economic, justice-focused think-tank working across Africa. We are committed to the vision of achieving inclusive societies, and our task is to influence policy processes through evidence-based advocacy and practices of development. We produce knowledge and have developed related platforms that amplify information to support the work of frontline advocacy organisations and networks. Our approach is anchored in a theory of change which holds that current dominant approaches to inclusive democracy and development are inadequate and there is an urgent need to invest in citizen-centred processes. These processes, on the one hand, affirm what already exists as best practice amongst citizens, and expand the concept of citizenship beyond existing transactional forms towards co-production and co-creation.

Our experience since our establishment in January 2018 has been to make sure that we achieve a delicate balance between the desire to change the continent and ensuring our long-term sustainability. It is not always easy to create the balance. For instance, I spent more time in the year preoccupied with questions of long-term sustainability. We have for years been toying with the idea of turning ourselves into a social enterprise but held back for a number of reasons. However, the unfolding realities of funding challenges have played a major role in making us literally jump out of the comfort zone that we were about to fall into. We spent the year learning about sustainability and putting together plans and business models to help us shift towards becoming a social enterprise. Our understanding of this concept so far means that we will be incorporating business approaches into our working model. These business approaches will allow us to monetize some of our products where possible, securing our own income through advisory and mission-related investments. We are still learning.

By the end of the year, electoral democracy had been subjected to a test across the globe.





“

Our approach is anchored in a theory of change which holds that current dominant approaches to inclusive democracy and development are inadequate and there is an urgent need to invest in citizen-centred processes.

In Africa, a total of 180 million eligible voters were expected to make their mark. The election results were a mixed bag and were contested in some areas such as Mozambique and Namibia. Electoral democracy survived despite some imperfections. The real challenge is perhaps about how we can make sure that electoral-based democratic systems are seized with questions of government performance. How do we move away from being in perpetual election mode? Several reports indicate worsening poverty and growing inequality across Africa, suggesting the failure of the development project.

Our program work (discussed in more detail below) was preoccupied with proactively responding to existing challenges within the development and democracy ecosystems across the continent. We expanded our electoral promises conversion tracker into three more countries. We are now tracking the performance of governments in Botswana, Ghana, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Our work on mining has grown to cover

Mozambique and Zambia. Our work dedicated to building ecosystems of community philanthropy now includes Botswana, Malawi, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe. The growth has given us an opportunity to widen the talent base beyond Zimbabwe within the team. We have added colleagues from Botswana, South Africa, and Malawi.

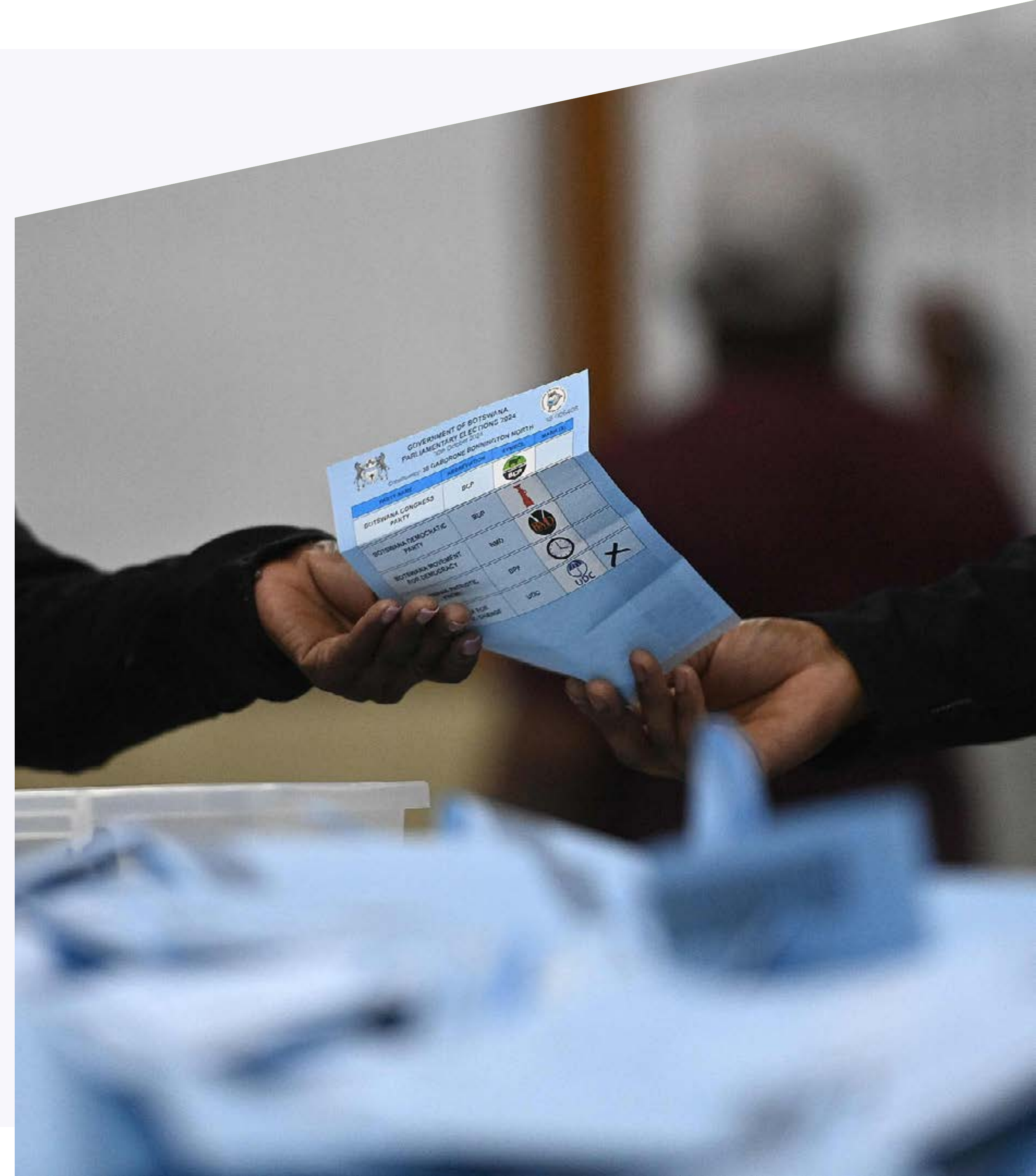
Our funding partners have remained very generous - allowing us to experiment and grow at a very rapid pace. The growth would not have been realised had it not been for their willingness to allow us autonomy in program design.

The board remains an important backbone of support. They have helped to shepherd the growth process with care and patience.

In Solidarity,

**Tendai Murisa**  
**Executive Director**

January 2025





A dramatic sunset over a desert landscape. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with bright orange and yellow light breaking through, creating a silhouette effect on the clouds. The foreground shows a desert scene with sparse, dry vegetation, including a large, leafless tree in the center and various shrubs and bushes. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, golden, and dark tones.

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# INTRODUCTION



SIVIO Institute is officially seven years old this year. As we look back on the seven-year trajectory, we can quantify the growth that we have experienced not just numerically but also in the impact that we have observed and the growing influence of our brand. Our current strategy was approved in 2021, and its primary focus was on regionalisation, giving primacy to a Pan-African focus.

This report discusses our achievements and impact across our three (3) centres of programming,

namely Civic Engagement, Philanthropy and Communities, and the Centre for Economic Development and Livelihoods. Across all these centres, we leverage tools, such as research and knowledge generation, communication, training, and the development of integrated technology platforms (ITPs) to enhance our work.

In 2024, the institute refined one centre – the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Financial Inclusion to focus on economic development, encompassing

our previous work on financial inclusion and social entrepreneurship but broadening the centre to focus on drivers of economic growth such as agriculture, mining and the political economy of production and livelihoods.

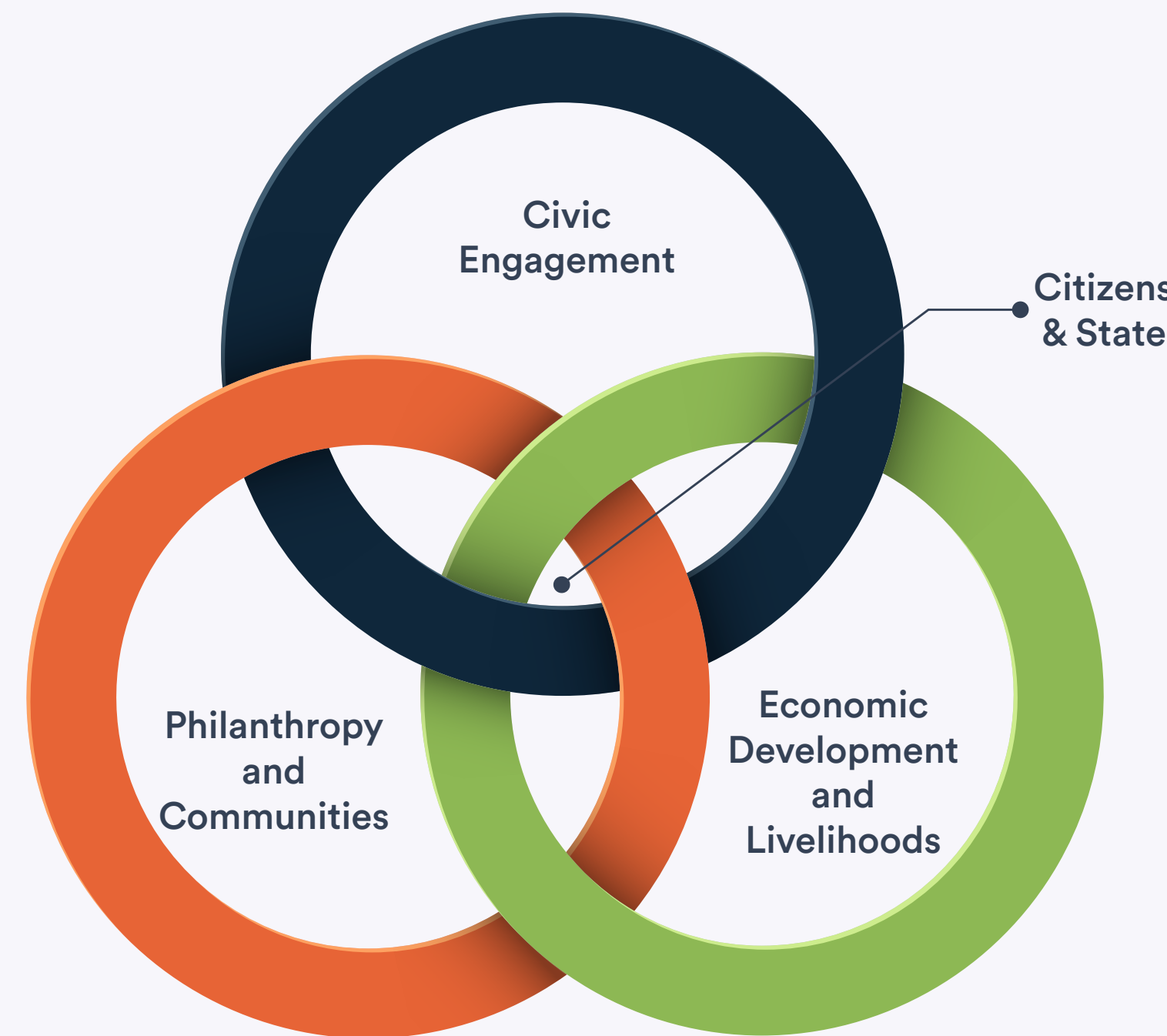
The institute continues to tackle the following challenges:

- ▶ Inadequate performance of the existing political system,

- ▶ Increasing poverty and inequality,
- ▶ Limited coherence of policies across sectors,
- ▶ Ineffectual participation in public processes by non-state actors,
- ▶ Increased dependence on external resources and limited leveraging of local resources.

### LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY

We leverage technology, communication and digital media in our work



### OUR TOOLS







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# OPERATING CONTEXT



The year 2024 has been marked by significant political changes across Africa, with 20 countries initially anticipating elections. Elections were held in 16 countries namely Algeria, Botswana, Comoros, Chad, Ghana, Namibia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Senegal, Somaliland, Tunisia, and Togo. Elections were postponed in Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, South Sudan, and Mali. Some nations, like Botswana, Senegal, and South Africa, have maintained a semblance of democracy, whereas others, such as Burkina Faso, Mali, and Mozambique, continue to grapple with contested outcomes and military rule. In addition, Namibia recently elected its first female president. Despite the regularity of elections, the continent has seen a resurgence of coups, military unrest, and increased protests, exemplified by the turmoil in Mozambique following FRELIMO's victory.

Civic freedoms remain heavily restricted, with 45 out of 50 African countries rated as obstructed, repressed, or closed by Civicus' Global [Monitor](#). Journalists and whistle-blowers face growing threats, across West, East, and Southern Africa. Civil society organisations are actively advocating for better governance and social justice despite facing governmental pressures and attempts to limit their influence. In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), civil society groups are opposing constitutional changes that could extend presidential terms.

Economically, Africa started the year with a positive outlook, projecting 3.7% growth. However, foreign direct investment remains constrained due to global conflicts and the impact of climate change. The non-profit sector faces a complex environment, with challenges in funding and capacity building. Local organisations must navigate regulatory threats, such as the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) Bill, 2024 in Zambia and the Private Voluntary Organisations (PVO) Amendment Bill, 2024 in Zimbabwe, which impose increased state oversight. Despite these challenges, non-profits continue to play a crucial role in complementing government efforts in health, education, and poverty alleviation, although they often face suspicion and control from governments rather than partners for good. Increasingly, the potential for philanthropy to reshape development in Africa is being considered, along with the opportunity for more engagement between different players in the ecosystem.







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# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Table 1 summarises the progress made since January 2024 and how this compares with the previous year whilst Annex 1 provides a detailed breakdown of the 2024 outputs across our tools vis-à-vis the targets set for the year.

**Table 1: Our Performance Since Inception (2018 to 2024)**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Knowledge Generation (Publications)</b>	6	5	16	12	13	20	10 9 publications + 1 book chapter
<b>Knowledge Generation (Blogs)</b>	3	-	2	-	-	3	17 14 + 3 published externally
<b>Podcasts</b>	-	-	1	-	-	7	16 12 produced, 4 participated
<b>Dialogues/ Convenings</b>	2	2	13	12	7	23	36 10 hosted, 26 attended
<b>Training/ Capacity Building</b>	0	1	5	4	4	11	9
<b>ITPs</b>	5	2	5	1	4	5	5 new
<b>Regional Projects</b>	0	1	2	1	3	4	6
<b>Website Stats</b>							
<b>Website sessions</b>	3.5K	3.2K	5.3K	6.4K	4.8K	10K	8.9K
<b>Social Media Following</b>							
<b>X (Twitter)</b>	813	1,208	1,441	1,878	2,088	2,260	2'494
<b>Facebook</b>	271	510	726	1,867	2,328	2,436	2'582
<b>LinkedIn</b>	-	-	-	-	576	874	1'252
<b>Social Media Engagement</b>							
<b>LinkedIn Pageviews</b>	-	-	-	1,061	631	966	1'170
<b>Facebook Reach</b>	237	59,211	29,897	9,428	8,998	15,915	25,022
<b>Staff</b>							
<b>Staff Compliment</b>	5	11	12	12	15	14	17



A woman wearing a purple headwrap and a blue dress is shown in a rural setting, pouring golden-brown grain from a large, round, woven basket into a container. The background is a field of dry, yellowish vegetation under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

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OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM  
OUTPUTS AND  
OUTCOMES IN 2024



# Knowledge Generation

The figure below provides an overview of the knowledge products from the period under review.

## KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

5

Research Reports

3

Policy Briefs

1

Book Chapter

1

Journal AJIS Volume 4 - Africa's Quest for Inclusion: Trends and Patterns

14

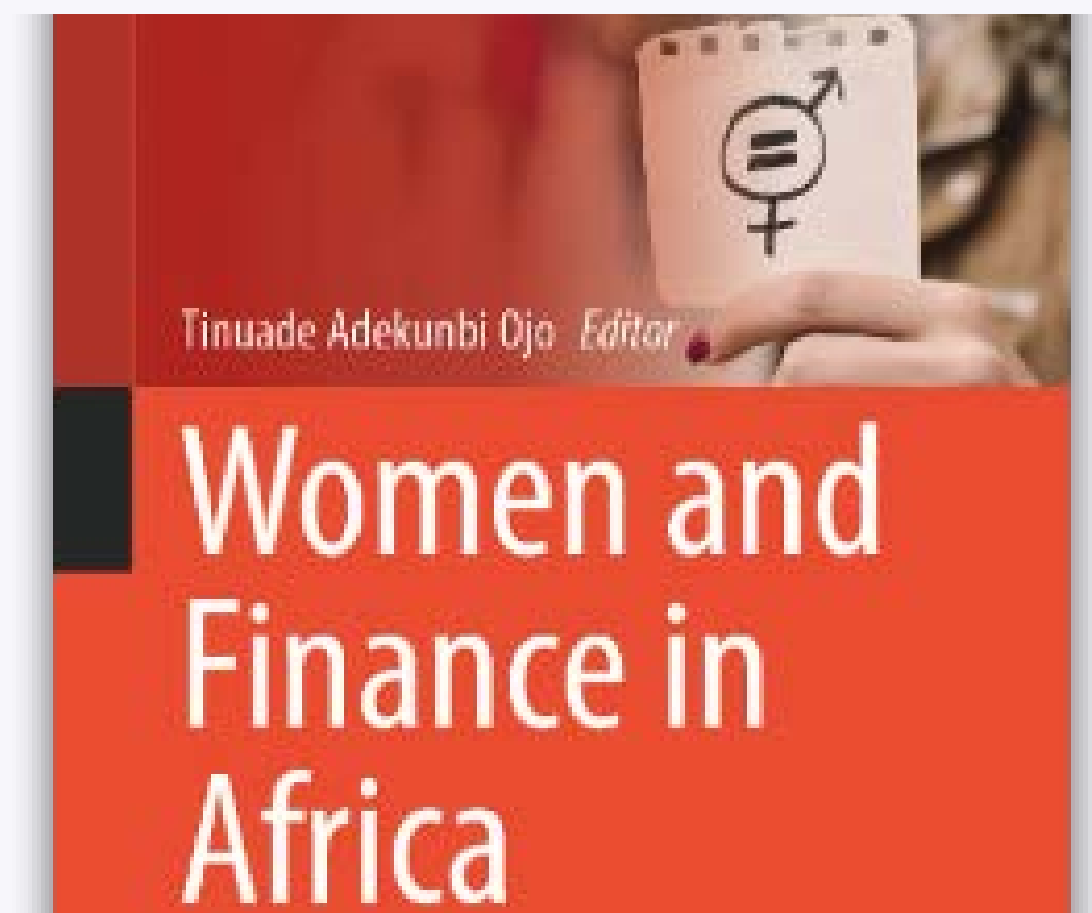
Short-form writing (blogs, opinion pieces, policy insights) and 50 updates on SIVIO Connect blog site

Figure 2: List of Knowledge Generation Products in 2024

We produced 24 knowledge products in 2024, including five (5) research reports, three (3) policy briefs, and the 4th [volume](#) of the African Journal of Inclusive Societies (AJIS). The 4th volume was focused on understanding trends and patterns in inclusion for Africa's development. The team produced policy briefs on [corruption](#), [price stabilisation](#) and [unemployment](#) as outputs from the policy advocacy lab process in partnership with policy lab participants. The team additionally produced a report on the performance of the

Zimbabwean government from 2023 to 2024 as part of tracking activities on the [ZimCitizensWatch](#) Platform. We published a [chapter](#) on 'The Role of Institutions in Promoting Financial Inclusion of MSMEs in Zimbabwe' in the book 'Women and Finance in Africa: Inclusion and Transformation' in collaboration with the Institute of Pan African Thought and Conversation (IPACT). As part of research work on financial inclusion we developed four (4) reports, namely three (3) individual country reports from [Kenya](#), [Malawi](#), and [Zambia](#) to assess

digital financial inclusion and a combined three (3) [country report](#) of our data summaries from the financial inclusion Index. [SIVIO Connect](#) also houses articles and opinion pieces produced throughout the year including opinion pieces on land tenure, associational life, and civic engagement. Our work has been cited a total of 29 times in 2024. Since we started in 2018, we have been cited 74 times.





**FINANCIAL INCLUSION INDEX REPORT**  
 AN ASSESSMENT OF DIGITAL AND TRADITIONAL FINANCIAL INCLUSION OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs) IN KENYA, MALAWI AND ZAMBIA  
 BELINDA CHAORA  
 APRIL 2024  
 SIVIO INSTITUTE

**POLICY BRIEF CORRUPTION**  
 August 2024  
 Transparency and Accountability: A Framework for Anti-Corruption Reform

**An Assessment of Digital Financial Inclusion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Zambia**  
 SIVIO Institute  
 Andrew Chisopo  
 2024

**RHETORIC AND REALITY**  
 An Analysis of the Government's Performance over the 1st Year of the Second Republic's 2nd Term of Office - (September 2023 - August 2024)  
 Tendai Murisa, Eddah Jowah, Rebekah Cross and Matron Muchena

**POLICY BRIEF PRICE STABILISATION**  
 July 2024  
 Addressing Price Instability to Achieve Macroeconomic Stability in Zimbabwe

**An Assessment of Digital Financial Inclusion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Malawi**  
 SIVIO Institute  
 Nissily Mushani  
 2024

**AJIS**  
 African Journal of Inclusive Societies  
 DECEMBER 2023 VOLUME 3  
 Humanities and the Democracy Project in Africa: Challenges and Prospects

**POLICY BRIEF UNEMPLOYMENT**  
 August 2024  
 Investment and Job Creation: A Framework of Employment Creation Through Strategic Investment in High Growth Industries

**An Assessment of Digital Financial Inclusion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Kenya**  
 SIVIO Institute  
 Jackline Gachiri & Belinda Chaora  
 2024

Collage 1: Knowledge Generation Products in 2024

Furthermore, we also communicate our research findings via the recently introduced blog site, [SIVIO.Connect](#). The blog site has proved to be an important bridge for us to communicate research findings using non-technical language to a broader audience. Some of the more prominent blogs written in 2024 include:

- ▶ [The Big Bet](#) explored the concept of engaged citizens working collectively in communities and establishing associations as a vital condition for democracy and inclusive development to thrive.
- ▶ [Africa Giving: Not Just an App](#) outlines the multiple opportunities for engagements and support that have arisen from our development of the AfricaGiving platform.
- ▶ [Latest Development in Land Tenure Reforms](#) outlines the implications of the Zimbabwean Government's decision to change the form of ownership title on 'fast track' farms distributed after the controversial Land Reform process in 1999.
- ▶ [From Promise to Despair: The individual Impact of the Collapse of Healthcare Systems in Zimbabwe](#) which narrates the losses incurred at the household level as the public healthcare system in Zimbabwe fails to deliver adequate services to citizens.

**10 October 2024**  
**Latest Developments on Land Tenure Reforms in Zimbabwe**  
 Tendai Murisa  
 Tendai Murisa, 9 October, 2024 (Yesterday 19 October 2024), the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ) announced a major shift on land tenure in fast-track farms. According to the announcement, GoZ intends to issue a bankable form of title to land where the owners of the land can borrow against the land and sell the land or [...]  
 Read More

**26 September 2024**  
**From Promise to Despair: The Individual Impact of the Collapse of Healthcare Systems in Zimbabwe**  
 Matron Muchena  
 The collapse of Zimbabwe's healthcare system has left a trail of devastation in its wake. Once a beacon of hope and a model for other African countries, the healthcare system has deteriorated alarmingly. Hospitals lack basic medical supplies, equipment, and staff, leaving patients to suffer and die from treatable conditions. The personal toll of this [...]  
 Read More

**14 September 2024**  
**AfricaGiving Impact Stories: Enlight Abilities**  
 Nonandelelo Nzula  
 Story by Mjomba Hamuhama (CEO Enlight Abilities) and Nonandelelo Nzula (AfricaGiving) in the first half of 2024, The AfricaGiving Team hosted the \$100 for 300 fundraising campaign that ran from February to May. The campaign aimed to harness donations from 300 people each donating US\$100 or more. The campaign had multiple beneficiaries. One of these is as [...]  
 Read More

**7 August 2024**  
**Africa Giving: Empowering Communities Through Generosity**  
 Nonandelelo Nzula  
 In the first quarter of the year, Africa Giving launched an ambitious fundraising campaign (named "100 for 100000"). Our goal was to have 100 individuals each donate a minimum of US\$1000 to raise a total of US\$100,000. By the end of the campaign, we successfully raised US\$8,300. The campaign began by reaching out to individuals [...]  
 Read More

**31 July 2024**  
**Corruption, Price Instability And Unemployment- A Collection of Policy Publications From The Policy Advocacy Lab**  
 Belinda Chaora  
 SIVIO Institute began the Policy Advocacy Labs (PAL) experiment in 2020. This a collective learning process that takes ordinary citizens through several steps to identify an issue or problems and craft potential policy solutions for that problem. We did this to broaden the level of participation of Zimbabweans in the policy-making process. Our desired outcome [...]  
 Read More

Collage 2: Key Blogs Published on SIVIO Connect Blog Site in 2024



# Dialogues and Convenings

## SIVIO's Regional Reach



Heard in six countries

34

Conversations

10

Hosted

25

Joined

Figure 3: Reach of Dialogues and Convenings 2024

Our reputation as a credible convenor continued to grow in 2024, we were invited into 26 platforms and intentionally curated ten (10) conversations on land tenure, financial inclusion, and mining revenue monitoring, hosted an AfricaGiving activation event and facilitated two (2) face-to-face meetings for the Community Foundations of Zimbabwe Network. We provided insights into conversations around African philanthropy, digital and financial inclusion, government tracking, civic technology, land and agrarian reforms, reimagining democracy and development, and growing community philanthropy. The conversations were held on various spaces and platforms within Zimbabwe, across the African continent and globally. Annexe 2 provides a full list of all the events hosted and where SIVIO Institute was invited to make an input.

Collage 3: Dialogues and Convenings in 2024





# Training and Capacity Building

355 133

Enrolments

Graduates

39%

Complete Rate

\*Average Global Rate of Completion for Massive Open Online Courses is 8%

71%

of participants said that the materials in the course are useful

Figure 4: Impact of SIVIO Institute Online Training School Courses

[The SIVIO Institute Online School](#) continues to offer self-paced courses in Introduction to Civic Engagement, Introduction to Principles of Entrepreneurship, Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship, and Sustainable Civil Society Organisations. Our completion rate is strongly comparable to other Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCS) whose average completion rate is 8%. Our online courses have a completion rate of 39%. The impact of our training is evident in the testimonials from attendees. Where 71% of participants stated the course was useful to them.

In addition to online training courses, we undertook a capacity-building initiative with 16 women and youth activists from across Zimbabwe. The training course contributed to developing strong advocacy organisations, enhancing civic engagement and advocacy skills, and facilitating community dialogues to build lasting democracies. Participants expressed their appreciation for the insights learnt and one of them had this to say:

“This was great. It taught me that no policy research or project is done using online statistics. It’s key to go on the ground”  
*Women and Youth Training Participant*

We completed three (3) Policy Advocacy Labs (corruption, price stabilisation and unemployment) and the Social Entrepreneurship Lab. The policy labs contributed to improving the policy analysis and advocacy skills of participants. Three (3) social enterprises from the social entrepreneurship lab were assisted in improving their value proposition to get to the point of pitching their businesses, improving their ability to communicate their funding and growth needs to wider audiences.

“Thank you for the opportunity. Pleasantly impressed with the output of the process. Walking away encouraged that there is much few can accomplish in trying to address a costly problem for society. Was a pleasure to interact with you all.”

*Policy Advocacy Lab Participant*

Collage 4: Youth and Women Capacity Building Initiative





# Networking

We connected with other communities of practice in the following ways:

- ▶ We renewed our membership with WINGS, African Philanthropy Network APN and joined the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR).
- ▶ We facilitated the establishment of the first-ever Community Foundations Network in Zimbabwe, which has proceeded to establish its constitution, governance structures and collaborative framework.
- ▶ We shared knowledge products for the repository on philanthropy in Africa and African philanthropy as part of the process of setting up the Southern African Philanthropy Network.
- ▶ In addition to the capacity-building initiative with women and youth activists from across Zimbabwe, we took the opportunity to build a network in which we will continue to engage with relevant resources.



Collage 5: Networking Events Conducted in 2024



# Integrated Technology Platforms

We revamped our [Integrated Technology Platforms](#) (ITPs) to ensure that they have a regional focus. We mostly focused on refining the user experience and interface of the [AfricaGiving](#) platform and [African Citizens Watch](#). We expanded the [Financial Inclusion Index](#) to include Kenya, Malawi, and Zambia. Furthermore, we launched five (5) new platforms:

1. [ZIMCITIZENSWATCH](#): We revised the tracker to exclude a manifesto and include the national vision through National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) and citizens' expectations in line with our annual surveys.
2. [Financial Inclusion Index \(SI-FIndex\)](#): We revised the 2022 version of the index for better navigation and flow and to compare financial inclusion data for Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
3. Civic Catalyst: This is a closed platform for participants of the training course "Building a Concerted Movement of Women and Youth-focused Organisations" which is a knowledge repository for training content.
4. [SIVIO Connect](#): The site is dedicated to curating regular updates from the

SIVIO team on activities within the team. It is designed to reach audiences that prefer short form written content.

5. [African Citizens Watch](#): We expanded this platform to cover South Africa.

We have 17 Integrated Technology Platforms that were active in 2024. We modified the [AfricanCitizensWatch](#) platform, and the [SIVIO Financial Inclusion Index](#) to have a regional focus and maintained all our other platforms which align with our thematic focus areas. As of December 2024, the regional facing platforms (covering two or more African countries) include the [AfricanCitizensWatch](#), [African Citizenship Index](#), the [SIVIO Institute Financial Inclusion Index](#), [Africa Giving](#), [African Agora](#), [Agriculture in Africa](#), [The Ease of Doing Philanthropy Index](#), [SIVIO Connect](#), [African Journal of Inclusive Societies](#), [Online Training School](#) and [The Philanthropy Lab](#). Six of our platforms remain focused in Zimbabwe namely the [Land Portal](#), the [Mining Revenue Monitoring Index](#), [Local Government in Action Tracker](#), [ZimCitizensWatch](#), the [Entrepreneurship Lab](#) and the learning hub which created for the youth and women in democracy initiative.



15

countries covered

ACW (4), ACI (5), FIndex (4), Agora (12), EDP (10), Phil Lab (13)

Agriculture Tracker has data on all 54 African countries

82%

of program platforms are regional

ALL

ITPs have a global audience

Figure 5: Regional Coverage of SIVIO Institute Integrated Technology Products as of December 2024

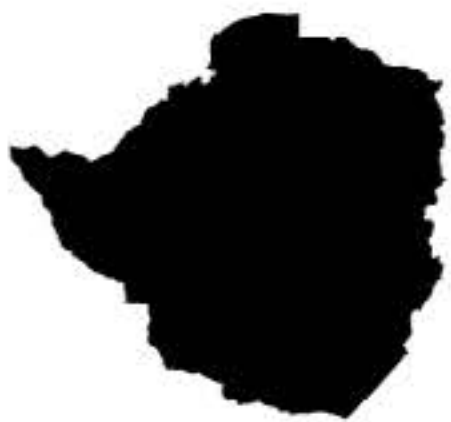


# Platform Coverage and Focus

## Regional



## Zimbabwe



### Civic Engagement



### Economic Development and Livelihoods



### Philanthropy and Communities



### Cross-cutting



Figure 6: Distribution of Integrated Technology Products by Centre



# Communications and Visibility

Our emphasis on communication and visibility has resulted in a nomination for the NGO Communicator of the Year Award by the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations in Zimbabwe (NANGO). We significantly increased our social media followership across all platforms, with notable growth on YouTube (166%) and LinkedIn (108%). Across all social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn, X, WhatsApp and TikTok) our combined followership is now 7070 followers.

We produced a total of 11 podcasts in the [What.if. We.Think.Differently.Series](#), which gathered 1654 collective views as of December 2024. We house these podcasts on YouTube where we currently host our nascent but growing, [SIVIO.TV](#). We released three (3) issues of our [SIVIO.Connect.Newsletter](#) and an issue of our [SIVIO.Connect.Magazine](#) with a conversation on philanthropy. All this is over and above the regular blogs being updated on our [SIVIO.Connect.blog](#) site.



## SIVIO Connect Newsletter



# SIVIO Connect Magazine

Nominated for NGO Communicator of the Year by NANGO

Launched SIVIO TV and SIVIO Magazine

**28%**  
overall audience growth since 2022

Figure 7: Achievements in Communications and Visibility in 2024



## Articles and News Features

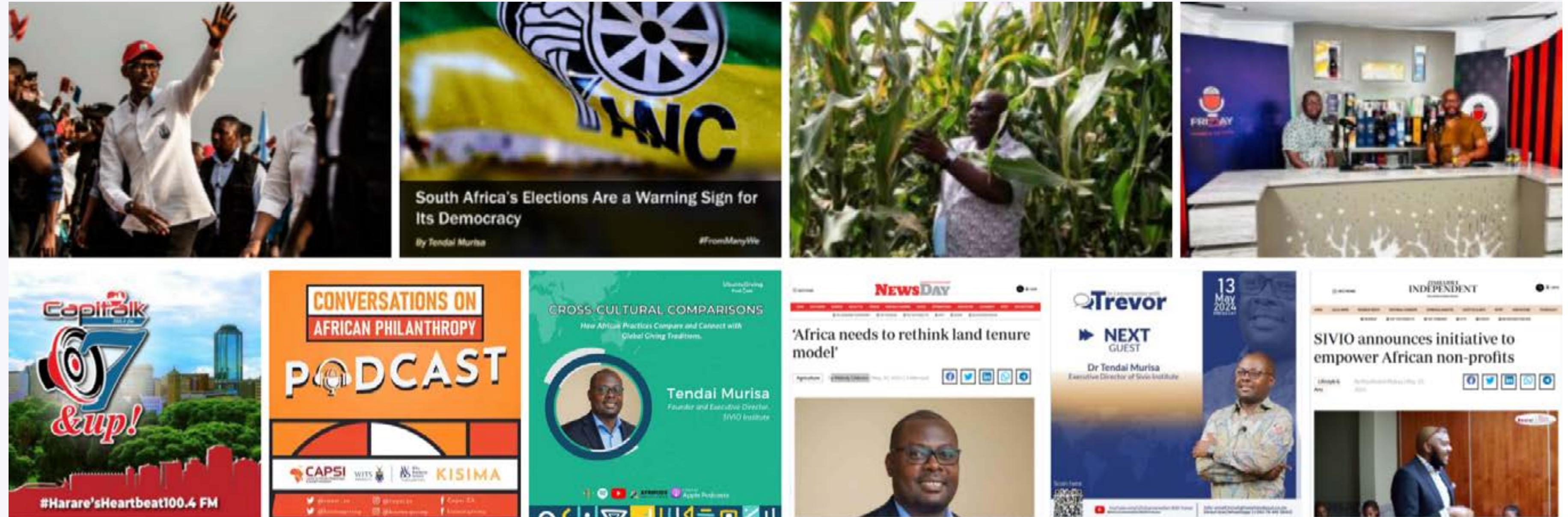
Our work is being recognised in some exciting media spaces:

[The Independent](#), a national weekly newspaper in Zimbabwe featured a story about AfricaGiving, increasing the awareness of the platform.

On the 22nd of May, the AfricaGiving Coordinator also sat down with [Capitalk](#), [100.4FM](#)'s #SheDiaries to share about being a development practitioner and highlight the work being done for African non-profits through AfricaGiving. The station has a listenership of 4.2 million people in Harare.

Our Executive Director was invited to the [In Conversation with Trevor podcast](#) (4k views, 77.4K subscribers), the [Ubuntu Podcast](#) (39 views; 105 subscribers), [Conversations about African Philanthropy](#) (55 views; 496 subscribers) and [Friday Night Drinks](#) (2.7K views; 7k subscribers).

The following international and local entities have featured articles of our work: [Newsday](#), [Mail & Guardian](#), [Kettering Foundation](#) and [NewZWire](#).



Collage 7: SIVIO Institute Coverage in Media Platforms 2024



# Africa Giving

AfricaGiving has added 28 new listings in 2024, bringing the total number of registered organisations to 120 across 16 countries. The platform has also received its largest individual donation of US\$1,000.00 and has seen the growth of recurring giving, with one (1) organisation having reached an accumulative donation of US\$1,200.00 within two (2) months. Since its inception in 2023, AfricaGiving has distributed US\$16,293.25 to 18 organisations in six (6) countries.



## Impact Stories from Africa Giving

In October 2024, SIVIO Institute employees contributed US\$220 to put together dignity kits to accompany the 50 reusable sanitary pads that were donated to AfricaGiving after the Harare activation event in May. The dignity kits were then distributed to 80 high school girls at Jonas High School in Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe, through a partnership with Shamwari Yemwanasikana (Friend of the Girl Child).



**\$16k**  
distributed

**16**  
countries represented

**120**  
organisations  
on the platform

Figure 8: Africa Giving Impact

Collage 8: AfricaGiving in Action





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OUR WORK ACROSS THE  
REGION



As of 2024, we have 10 projects that are regional in their scope. The active/new projects in the region for 2024 are AfricaGiving (currently in 16 countries), the Financial Inclusion Index, which covers four (4) countries, and African Citizens Watch, which covers four (4) countries with the team working to add three (3) new countries by the end of the first quarter of 2025. Our team now includes colleagues from Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia.

# Africa Giving


Harnessing individual giving for a sustainable change in Africa



[africagiving.org](https://africagiving.org)

# African Citizens Watch

an independent platform that tracks the performance and effectiveness of African governments based on the pledges made in the manifesto and other important policy pronouncements.



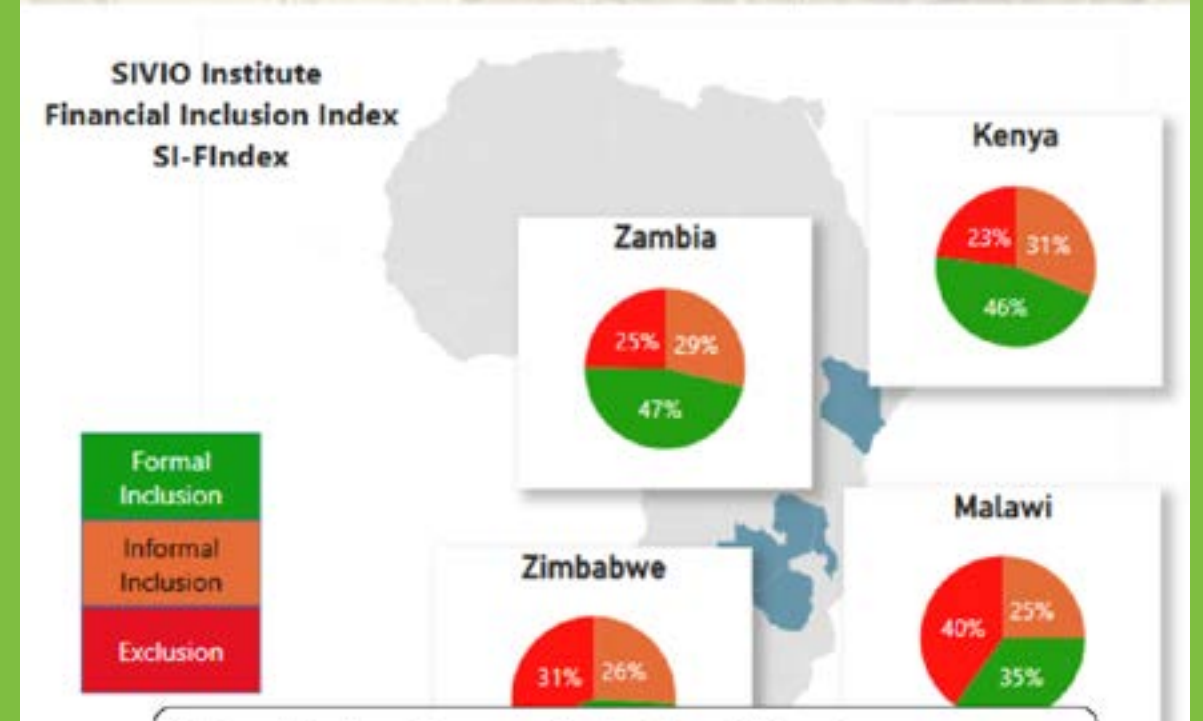
Malawi MCP 2020-25	Zambia UPND 2021-26	Zimbabwe ZANU-PF 2023-28	South Africa GNU 2024 - 29
--------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------------------------

[africancitizenwatch.org](https://africancitizenwatch.org)



## SIVIO Institute's Financial Inclusion Index (SI-FIndex)

SIVIO Institute  
Financial Inclusion Index  
SI-FIndex



Country	Formal Inclusion	Informal Inclusion	Exclusion
Zambia	47%	25%	29%
Kenya	46%	23%	31%
Zimbabwe	26%	31%	43%
Malawi	35%	40%	25%

[fi-index.sivioinstitute.org](https://fi-index.sivioinstitute.org)





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INSTITUTIONAL  
PERFORMANCE





The institutionalisation and regionalisation processes are on course. By the end of the year, we had achieved the following:

- ▶ Received a clean 2023 institutional audit.
- ▶ Successfully complied with all requirements in the different jurisdictions we are registered in.
- ▶ Completed an Organisational Mapping Tool (OMT) Assessment through support from the Ford Foundation as part of the BUILD Grant. The purpose of the assessment is to identify priority areas that require strengthening, which the organisation will work on over the next four (4) years.
- ▶ Recognition of the organisation at the National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (NANGO). We were nominated

for the Communicator of the Year Award.

- ▶ Supporting staff capacity building: The Communications and Visibility Coordinator attended a week-long workshop hosted by the African Philanthropy Network (APN) in November 2024. The team has since begun a comprehensive review of SIVIO's Communication and Visibility and is developing a communication strategy for 2025.
- ▶ Expand the Programs Team to include regional personnel based in Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia.

As of December 2024, our gender composition of staff and board members is indicated in Table 2.

Description	Male	Female	Total
Board Members	5	4	9
Staff Members	3	14	17

**Table 2: Gender Composition of SIVIO Institute Board and Staff Members**



An aerial photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey. In the foreground, there are several multi-story buildings, some with flat roofs and others with more complex structures. A prominent building on the left has a red sign that says 'absa' and 'WORLD WIDE'. In the center, a tall, dark skyscraper has 'TRANSNET' written on its top. To the right, another tall building has a sign that says 'BEARING CORPORA'. The overall scene is a dense urban environment.

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# CONCLUSION



It has been an exciting and challenging year for us as a team. The growth has been at a rapid pace and in some instances our systems have not been able to adequately cater for and accommodate new opportunities. Our brand position continues to improve as evidenced by the high-level invitations we have received. We have had to navigate within a context of partisan-based and toxic polarisation, especially in Zimbabwe. The public policy environment is characterised by blame-shifting or high-sounding policy aspirations without specific plans of execution. Our main task has been to nurture and build upon evidence-based policy conversations and promote agency in contexts where service delivery has all but collapsed. The fixations with the blame-shifting culture threaten to reduce policy analysis into a process of identification of villains without offering an alternative pathway except through the electoral route. Office holders on the other hand seem to have at times abandoned any sense of commitment to duty, public service, integrity and ethics. Conversion of electoral promises into policy actions remains limited across most of Africa.

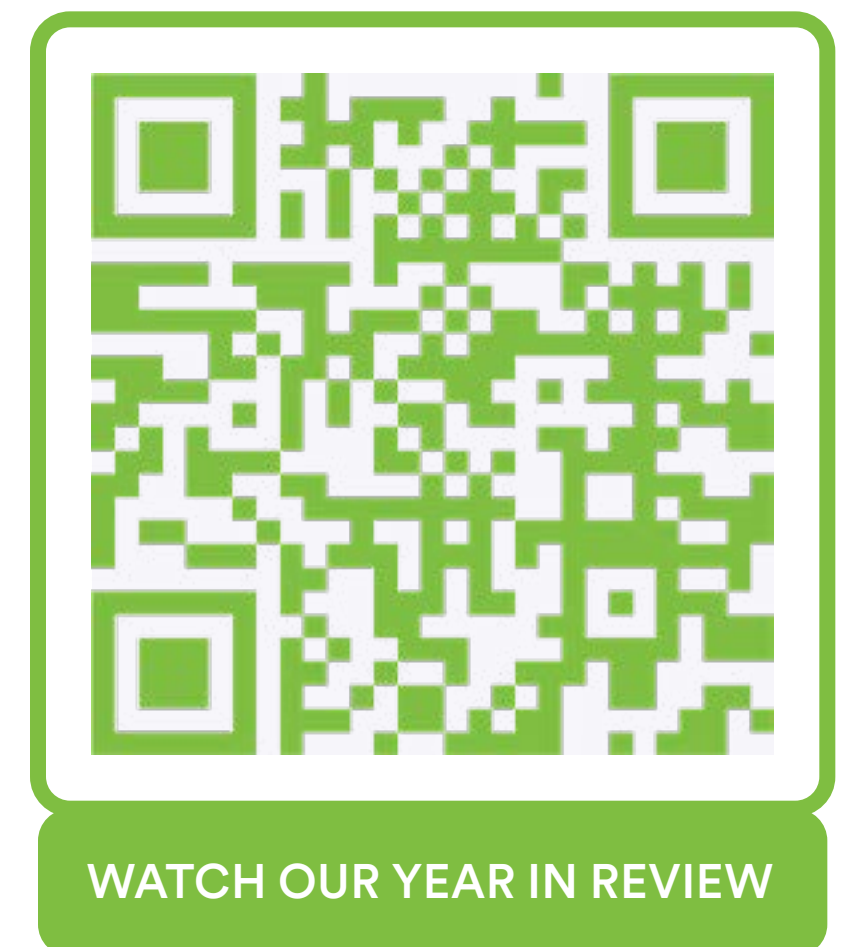
The work we have done in building agency, especially around philanthropy and entrepreneurship has contributed toward the creation of scope for re-imagining collective action outside of the state. Collective action in the form of building solidarity and creating synergies is under threat across the continent for various reasons, including unfair

laws, deepening atomisation of society given the existential challenges that communities and a general lack of trust in citizen-led processes. We had made a big bet at the beginning of the year that 2024 would be a year of re-invigorating community-led engagement. We devoted significant amounts of time within established communities of practice or nurturing new ones. The agitations in Kenya (led by Gen Zs) and in other places such as Mozambique provide a moment to reflect on how bottom-up agency can contribute towards rethinking and improving upon democracy.

There is still more work to be done. We look forward to building upon previous achievements. In the next year, we will focus on growing our regional footprint and improving and refining the design of our program interventions by adopting a more deliberate approach of targeting youths spread across the continent either as co-creators in program design or as beneficiaries of the different projects that we implement. Africa faces the twin challenges of halting democracy and weak models of development coupled with the challenge of limited opportunities for the youths. Our approach entails enhancing citizens' engagement in their various formations to influence public processes, developing new models of interactions in re-organising local economies, and promoting local giving as part of a response to building local agency. Our current program tools include knowledge generation, training, integrated

technology platforms, and the provision of platforms for dialogue. We seek to achieve the following:

- ▶ Improved regional collaborative partnerships and visibility,
- ▶ A credible knowledge resource base inclusive of our African Journal of Inclusive Societies and thematic-focused research reports and monographs packaged for broader utilisation,
- ▶ Establishment of youth-centred platforms for civic and entrepreneurial innovations
- ▶ Recognition as a credible convener on citizen-led frameworks of democracy and development,
- ▶ Play a central role in fostering the emergence of an evidence and technology-driven accountability movement,
- ▶ Popular regional training courses on citizenship, civic engagement, advocacy, building lasting collaborative, social entrepreneurship and economic development models,
- ▶ Build networks of collaboration in philanthropy.





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# ANNEXURE



## ANNEXE 1: PERFORMANCE OF SIVIO INSTITUTE PROGRAMS BASED ON STRATEGY

Area	Specific Target	Status
Knowledge Production	Develop and launch a journal that focuses on influencing processes of democracy and development in Africa by 2023.	Launched the African Journal of Inclusive Societies (AJIS) and have published 4 volumes (2021, 2023, 2024)
	At least four annual signature reports (Citizens' Perceptions and Expectations Reports on Zimbabwe, Financial Inclusion in Africa, and State of Giving Report)	4 signature products Citizens Perceptions and Expectations (2023) Barometer reports (2023 & 2024). The Ease of Doing Philanthropy series covers 10 SADC countries (2023). The Financial Inclusion Index now tracks 4 countries.
	4 peer-reviewed books on democracy and development	2 Books Community Foundations in Zimbabwe, Rethinking Citizens and Democracy
Dialogues/ Convenings	Recognition as a credible convenor of thought-leaders, communities, and governments	We have held several online dialogues which allows supporters from around the world and region to convene.
Integrated Technology Platforms	Maintain and expand platforms into the region	We now have 7 regional ITPs. (African Citizens Watch, African Agora, African Citizenship Index, Africa Giving, Agriculture in Africa, Ease of Doing Philanthropy Index, Financial Inclusion Index)
Training	A registered regional school offering post-graduate diplomas, executive courses, and master's programs.	We are yet to establish regional face to face training or executive courses. We are offering 4 online training courses with a regional focus and re-oriented our Philanthropy Lab to have a SADC focus
Re-granting	Mobilised and re-granted over US\$5,000,000 towards initiatives to support community philanthropy and entrepreneurship by 2030	US\$16,127.00 was raised through the Africa Giving platform and activation and fundraising events.



## ANNEXE 2: LIST OF DIALOGUES HOSTED AND ATTENDED IN 2024

#	Title of Event	Date	Hosts/ Partners	Format	Register (Attend)
<b>HOSTED</b>					
1	Building a Concerted Movement of Women and Youth for Democracy and Development Kick-Off meeting	4 Mar	SIVIO Institute	In Person – Zimbabwe	16
2	Social Entrepreneurship Lab Pitch Session	5 Apr	SIVIO Institute	In Person – Zimbabwe	6
3	Launch of Financial Inclusion Index	14 May	SIVIO Institute	Online	85 (47)
4	Community Foundations in Zimbabwe Network	16 May	SIVIO Institute	In Person – Zimbabwe	27
5	Africa Giving Dinner and Art Auction	24 May	SIVIO Institute	In Person – Zimbabwe	18
6	Building a Concerted Movement of Women and Youth focused organisations – Midyear Meeting	4 Jul	SIVIO Institute	In Person - Zimbabwe	16
7	Regional Meeting – African Citizens Watch	16 Oct	SIVIO Institute	In Person – South Africa	9
8	Land Tenure in Zimbabwe – Discussion	22 Oct	SIVIO Institute	In Person - Zimbabwe	14
9	Community Foundations Network of Zimbabwe Meeting	4 Nov	SIVIO Institute	In Person - Zimbabwe	12
10	Building a concerted movement of women and youth-focused organisations - final meeting	10 Dec	SIVIO Institute	In Person - Zimbabwe	15
<b>PARTICIPATED</b>					
11	Inception Meeting on Data-Driven Advocacy for Improved Accountability in Mining	23 Feb	Green Governance Zimbabwe Trust	In Person - Zimbabwe	
12	World NGO Day	27 Feb	HexaMedia	Online	-
13	Reimagining African Philanthropy Support Infrastructure in Southern Africa	24 Apr	Southern Africa Trust	In Person - South Africa	-
14	Panel Discussion on Gender in the 2024 Elections	9 May	Wits School of Governance	In Person – South Africa	
15	Parliamentary Youth Caucus Engagement	15 May	Green Governance Zimbabwe Trust	In Person – Zimbabwe	-
16	Climate Justice and Security in Africa: Connections, Accelerators and Sustainability	28 May	African Development Bank	In Person – Kenya	-



#	Title of Event	Date	Hosts/ Partners	Format	Register (Attend)
17	Higher Education and Philanthropy in Sub-Saharan Africa	13 Jun	Lilly School for Philanthropy	Online	-
18	Ford Foundation Partners Meeting: Coalition discussion and the path ahead for South Africa and the region	24 -26 Jun	Ford Foundation	In Person – South Africa	-
19	Africa-Europe Forum ECFR	27-28 Jun	European Council for Foreign Relations	In Person – Kenya	-
20	A Global Conversation on Elections – Political Shifts in Europe	12 Jul	Kettering Foundation	<a href="#">Online</a>	
21	ECOSOCC - Role of Civic Tech in Accountability: African Citizens Watch	16 Jul	Charter Project Africa	In Person – Ghana	
22	Mid-Year Strategy Review Facilitated by Executive Director	24 Jul	Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association	In Person – Zimbabwe	
23	3rd African Philanthropy Academic Conference	29 - 30 Jul	Centre for African Philanthropy and Social Investment	In Person – Zimbabwe	
24	5th African Philanthropy Conference: The Next Frontiers of African philanthropy	1 – 2 Aug	Centre for African Philanthropy and Social Investment	<a href="#">In-Person</a> - Zimbabwe	
25	#ShiftThePower Mozambique Launch	8 Aug	Global Fund for Community Foundations	In Person – Mozambique	
26	An Africa Network Conversation: The Importance of Youth Participation in Democratic Processes	14 Aug	Kettering Foundation	Online	
27	Friday Drinks S10_E33: Rhetoric and Reality - An Analysis of Government Performance	20 Sep	Friday Night Drinks	<a href="#">Online</a>	
28	3rd WINGS Regional Space Meeting (Focus on Enabling Environment)	1 Oct	Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS)	Online	
29	ACT Ubumbano: The GNU and Coalition Politics	8 Oct	ACT Ubumbano	In Person – South Africa	
30	NANGO Conference and Awards	23-24 Oct	National Association of Non-Governmental Organisations	In Person - Zimbabwe	
31	Living Rights Festival	29 Oct	Institute for African Alternatives	In Person – South Africa	
32	African Philanthropy Network (APN) Assembly	5-8 Nov	African Philanthropy Network (APN)	In Person - Zimbabwe	
33	FORD Partners Meeting – BUILD grantees	18-19 Nov	Ford Foundation	In Person – South Africa	
34	MozFest House Zambia	20-21 Nov	Mozilla Foundation	In Person - Zambia	
35	Open Society Strategic Convening	26 Nov	Open Society Foundation	In Person – South Africa	
36	Policy Advocacy Strategy Workshop	10 – 11 Dec	International Republican Institute	In Person - Zimbabwe	



### ANNEXE 3: PERFORMANCE OF OUR INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS

Platform	Sessions	Users	Engagement Rate
New Platforms			
Zim Citizens Watch	1'705	1'458	42%
SIVIO Connect	1'289	946	44%
Incubation Hub	31	21	58%
SI-Findex	75	72	23%
African Citizens Watch	2'925	2'244	40%
Cross-cutting			
SIVIO Website	8'914	7'996	47%
SIVIO Online School	788	631	51%
African Journal of Inclusive Societies	1'729	1'458	42%
Regional Trackers			
AfricaGiving	5'215	3'173	72%
African Agora	797	782	22%
African Citizenship Index	1'452	1'433	18%
Ease of Doing Philanthropy Index	771	700	24%
Agriculture in Africa Tracker	135	-	-
Philanthropy Lab	5'311	4'629	45%



Platform	Sessions	Users	Engagement Rate
Zimbabwe Focused Trackers			
Mining Revenue Monitoring Index	1'153	1'643	25%
Land Portal	584	494	66%
Local Government Tracker	292	278	30%
Entrepreneurship Lab	30	27	61%



## ANNEXE 4: LIST OF PUBLICATIONS AND CITATIONS

Product	Date Published	Downloads (2024)	Citations (Since Publication)
<a href="#">Journal</a> : African Journal of Inclusive Societies (AJIS) Volume 4	Oct 2024	10	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Rhetoric and Reality: An Analysis of Government's Performance (Sept 2023 – Aug 2024)	Sept 2024	24	1
<a href="#">Summary</a> : Zimbabwe Government Assessment Summary	Sept 2024	44	
<a href="#">Policy Brief</a> : Unemployment	Aug 2024	25	
<a href="#">Policy Brief</a> : Corruption	Aug 2024	21	
<a href="#">Policy Brief</a> : Price Stabilisation	Jul 2024	12	
<a href="#">Financial Inclusion Index Report</a> : An Assessment of Digital and Traditional Financial Inclusion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Kenya, Malawi, and Zambia	May 2024	24	1
<a href="#">Report</a> : Digital Financial Inclusion of MSMEs in Kenya	May 2024	1	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Digital Financial Inclusion of MSMEs in Malawi	May 2024	1	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Digital Financial Inclusion of MSMEs in Zambia	May 2024	1	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Annual Report 2023	Jan 2024	115	
<a href="#">Journal</a> : African Journal of Inclusive Societies (AJIS) Volume 3	Dec 2023	22	4
<a href="#">Insight</a> : Assessing Zimbabwe's Readiness to Hold Free, Fair, And Ethical Harmonized Elections In August 2023	Aug 2023	12	
<a href="#">Insight</a> : Zimbabwe Votes – Some Key Considerations for the 2023 Elections	Aug 2023	17	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Five Years of Progress or Stagnation	Aug 2023	29	
<a href="#">Report</a> : African Agora Watch	Jul 2023	14	



Product	Date Published	Downloads (2024)	Citations (Since Publication)
<a href="#">Report</a> : Citizens' Perceptions and Expectations 2023 Survey Findings Report	May 2023	38	2
<a href="#">Report</a> : Examining Legal Constraints to Philanthropy in Southern Africa	Apr 2023	26	2
<a href="#">Journal</a> : African Journal of Inclusive Societies (AJIS) Volume 2	Feb 2023		
<a href="#">Report</a> : Annual Report 2022	Jan 2023	14	
<a href="#">Book</a> : Community Foundations in Zimbabwe: A Selection of Case Studies	Oct 2022	26	1
<a href="#">Book</a> : Rethinking Citizens and Democracy	Jul 2022	9	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Contested (claims of) Progress: An Analysis of Government Performance from 2018 - 2021	Jun 2022	7	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Financial Inclusion of MSMEs in Zimbabwe	May 2022	16	
<a href="#">Policy Brief</a> : The Potential Effects of the PVO Amendment Bill on Community Philanthropy	Apr 2022	14	
<a href="#">Directory</a> : Directory of Community Foundations in Zimbabwe	Apr 2022	30	
<a href="#">Book</a> : Electoral Capture in Africa – Case Studies from Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe	Mar 2022	8	
<a href="#">Report</a> : 2021 Citizens Perceptions and Expectations Survey Report	Feb 2022	3	
<a href="#">Strategy</a> : SIVIO Institute Strategy Summary (2021 to 2030)	Oct 2021	43	
<a href="#">Report</a> : Perception on Giving – Findings from a Survey on Giving in Zimbabwe	Mar 2020	11	
<a href="#">Policy Brief</a> : To Compensate or Not to- Revisiting the Debate on Compensation for Former Large-Scale Commercial Farmers	May 2019	14	1





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