Strategy At A Glance

2022 - 2025
Vision
An inclusive society appreciated by all, now and in the future.

Values
- Active citizenship
- Equity
- Justice
- Community resilience
- Improved accountability
- Co-creation
- Pan-Africanism
World View

African centric
Committed to the aggressive generation of African centered knowledge

Citizen centric
Focused on social justice where everyone has a role to play

Concerned about helping build government processes that ensure/ enhance possibilities of people from the base of the pyramid to the middle of the pyramid

Independent and objective analysis
We believe in development that addresses poverty and inequality

We are building upon the tradition of speaking truth to power, exploring opportunities for pathways to viable democracies and inclusive development with African characteristics.
We seek to address the following problems that are spread across countries and sub-regions in Africa, albeit unevenly. We have been careful in creating a sufficiently broad but also coherent framing in naming these issues.

Halting attempts to democracy
Weak citizen participation
Incoherent development models
Project based funding limiting long term sustainability

How we resolve the issues

Center based approach

Issues we are concerned about

The SIVIO Centre Based approach works to improve:
1. Civic engagement and citizen agency
2. Giving and solidarity
3. Entrepreneurship and financial inclusion
4. Organisational development

- Halting attempts at democracy
- Weak citizen participation
- Incoherent models & development
We employ a set of tools across all three centres which allow us to produce the outputs and outcomes that contribute towards advancing an inclusive society.

**Toolbox**

- Knowledge generation
- Training
- Leveraging technology
- Re-granting
- Networking

**Enablers for success**

1. Policy analysis and advocacy skill
2. Nurturing local giving and solidarity
3. Strengthen entrepreneurial skills
4. Organizational development
5. Adequate funding
6. Access to and effective use of technology
7. Collaborative arrangements
8. Conducive operating environment
9. Competent team (Staff & Board)
Timeline of Success

2018
- Launch of zimcitizenswatch, SIVIO
- Registered as a trust
- 3 reports
- 2 dialogues
- 4 ITPs
- 1 Training
- US$ 180,000 raised

2019
- Establishment of the Philanthropy and Entrepreneurship labs, new office premises and US registration, baseline survey on Citizens Perceptions and Expectations
- 6 reports
- 1 dialogue
- 2 ITPs
- 1 Training
- US$ 119,400 raised

2020
- Established the Policy Lab, Think Tanks Forum and published “Whose Development?”
- 8 reports
- 2 dialogues
- 5 ITPs
- 3 Training
- US$ 304,000 raised

2021
- Launched the African Citizenship Index, established the Sustainability Unit, Published Volume one of the African Journal of Inclusive Societies
- 4 reports
- 3 dialogues
- 2 ITPs
- 4 Training
- US$ 400,000 raised
Looking ahead

At SIVIO, we are continuously engaged in a process of incremental innovation.

Our Value Proposition

Our work is centred around creating real solutions for African development through evidence-based research that puts citizens at the centre.

- Continental approach (SADC first then the rest of Africa)
- Re-granting facility
- Regional Schools (Policy Analysis & Advocacy, Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy)
- Focus on social entrepreneurship
- Institutional strengthening and resilience initiative
Strategic Pillars

Centre for Civic Engagement
Our focus is on wicked problems, with an emphasis on social, economic & land policy, climate change & adaptation and natural resource frameworks. In all these, we promote public participation by creating platforms for dialogue. We create a community of practice through our training school on Civic engagement and public policy. Our technology products track policy performance in Africa and we aim to create a school of policy analysis for African CSOs. The knowledge produced here promotes development by encouraging citizen-centric policies and programs.

Centre for Philanthropy and Communities
Our work focuses on understanding and promoting citizen based and citizen led formations be they social, economic or political. We aim to understand philanthropy particularly community-led philanthropy. We generate knowledge on the policy practices and measures that restrict and promote philanthropy in Africa. Our technology platforms provide technology support to community based CSOs. Our work supports the growth of community foundations in Africa and we promote collaboration of citizen-led formations and their involvement in public processes.

Centre for Entrepreneurship and Financial Inclusion
We aim to understand the role of entrepreneurship in Africa’s development and the impact of current policies on entrepreneurship, financial inclusion and industrial innovation through dialogues and research. We work to improve rates of firm establishment, especially socially conscious enterprises. We train MSMEs to scale their enterprises through our training school and we provide a regranting facility to successful MSMEs with plans to create a network of firms trading and learning from each other in Africa. Our technology products track financial inclusion (and exclusion) on the continent, and we use this to generate recommendations on how Africa can be more inclusive.

What will we work on:

Institutional Strengthening

- Build a resilient organisation with multiple sources of funding and multi-year grants.
- Grow own income to at least 40% of annual budget
Our Theory of change

What (Problem)
- Inadequate performance of political systems
- Inadequate models of development
- Limited local participation in national and continental processes
- Limited institutional capacity
- Limited visibility of SIVIO work

If (Actions)
- Rigorous research
- Creating platforms for dialogues and convening
- Networking with other CSOs
- Creating new technology platforms
- Mobilising resources
- Communicating SIVIO work

Then (Outputs)
- Evidence based content
- Training schools
- Communities of Practice
- Technology based advocacy and support tools
- SIVIO grows its portfolio of grants including multiyear grants
- Improved financial and technical support

Then (Outcomes)
- Effective political systems
- Increased knowledge on alternative approaches to development
- Improved accountability of African governance structures
- Improved organizational resilience