

Wither Way African Science Centres ? Partnerships for SDGs

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**“Only by venturing into
the unknown do we
enable new ideas and
new results to take
shape”**

Margaret Wheatly (1994)

Introduction

- **Science and its influence on development (society)**
- **Science as a solution to socio – economic challenges(PANACEA)**
- **Science and the Humanities**
- **Regional and Global Science**

Frameworks

- **Science benefits versus dangers**
- **Balancing the Act**

Key issues on the Agenda

- **Developing appropriate science centre networks**
- **Establishing networks of centres of excellence dedicated to specific RD&D and capacity building**
- **Models for developing Science Centres**
- **Advancing & enhancing Science and Technology.**
- **Networks to reposition Zimbabwe on the global Science landscape .**

Science Centres and relevance

- Science centre network cutting across the national, regional and**
- Continental**
- Science centre models based on eclectic models**
- People centred model & highly interactive and engaging**
- Partnerships for democratic distribution of science centres**

Challenges of Science Centres

- Uneven distribution**
- Underfunding**
- Poor Research Infrastructure**
- Poor Human capital base in STEM**
- Disequilibriumed epistemic experiences**
- Poor Science literacy skills**

EXISTING SCIENCE NETWORKS

- **Local , regional & international agencies**

RCZ

SIRDC

RIOSET

SASTEC

SAASTA

TWAS

ASSAF

South South Cooperation

North South Cooperation

UN agencies

“It is science ...that can solve the problems of hunger and poverty, of insanitation and illiteracy, of superstition and deadening custom and tradition, of vast resources running to waste, or a rich country inhabited by starving people... Who indeed could afford to ignore science today? At every turn we have to seek its aid... The future belongs to science and ...who make friends with science.”

Jawaharlal Nehru(1948).

Science Centres & Development

- **Zimbabwe's national economic blue –print (ZIMASSET)**

Strong collaborative partnerships, i.e;

- **Food security and nutrition;**

- **Social services and poverty reduction;**

- **Infrastructure and utilities; and**

- **Value addition and beneficiation**

SDGs: Key Focus

SDG Goal 8 – Promote **sustained, sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work** for all

SDG 7 – Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

SDG 2 – Ending hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

SDG 9 – Building resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

SDG 6 – Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact

SDG 17 – building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels and Strengthening the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

SDG 3 – Ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

SDG 4 – Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

SDG 5 – Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls

SDG s: Priorities

- **Ending poverty in all its forms**
- **Socio-economic inclusivity**
- **Ending hunger & Food security**
- **Water and sanitation**
- **Combating climate change**
- **Contributing towards policy**
- **Accountable & inclusive institutions**
- **Inclusive health for all**
- **Inclusive quality education**
- **Gender equality**





“Science centres vulgarize knowledge to make it palatable to the masses, or sugar-coat science with gratuitous hands-on interactions to arouse visitor curiosity.” Bradburne(1998).

“....Because if science is a search in the darkness, then the humanities are a candle that shows us where we have been and the danger that lies ahead.””

Tom Cook(June, 2017)

WAY FORWARD

- Multistaholder consultation for implementation mechanism**
- Integrating SDGs into ZIMASSET**
- Partnerships for FIME**
- Communication & advocacy**
- Strengthening linkages between SDG working groups**
- Mobilising & Engaging all stakeholders**

INFORMATION & KNOWLEDGE

- Role of GLAM & resource sharing**
- Research data as an asset**
- Use of data in innovative ways**
- Promoting the Open Movement**
- Democratising access to data**
- Promoting modern methods of knowledge production**
- Interdisciplinary research**
- Incorporating indigenous knowledge**

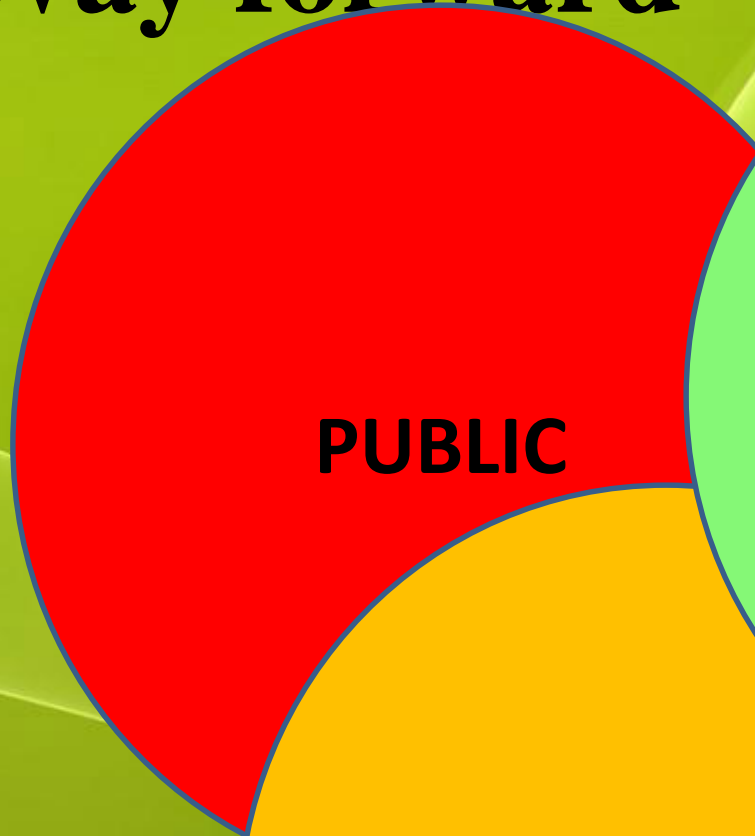
Libraries and Open Science

- Building commons for long term availability of scholarship**
- Fostering new forms of publishing**
- Enabling new methods of knowledge discovery**
- Building partnerships**
- Potential for new discoveries and solutions**
- Open up metadata**

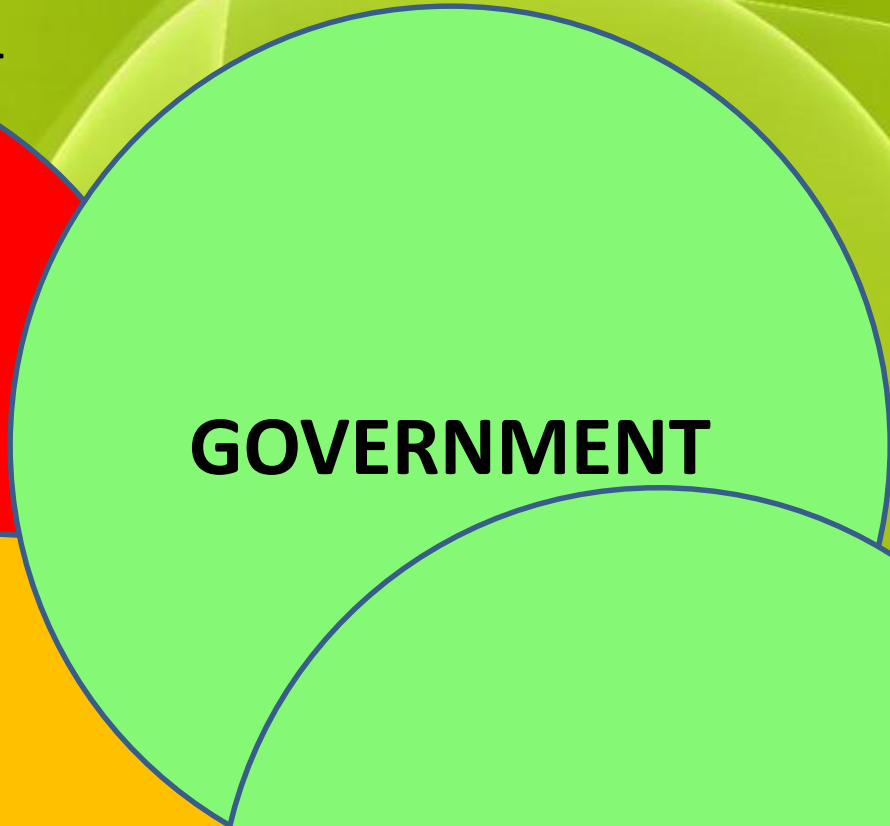
Conclusion

- Parabiotic partnership**
- Radical Collaboration**
- Democratise access to and cooperation on science, innovation & technology**
- Multi stakeholder partnerships**
- Universal partnerships**

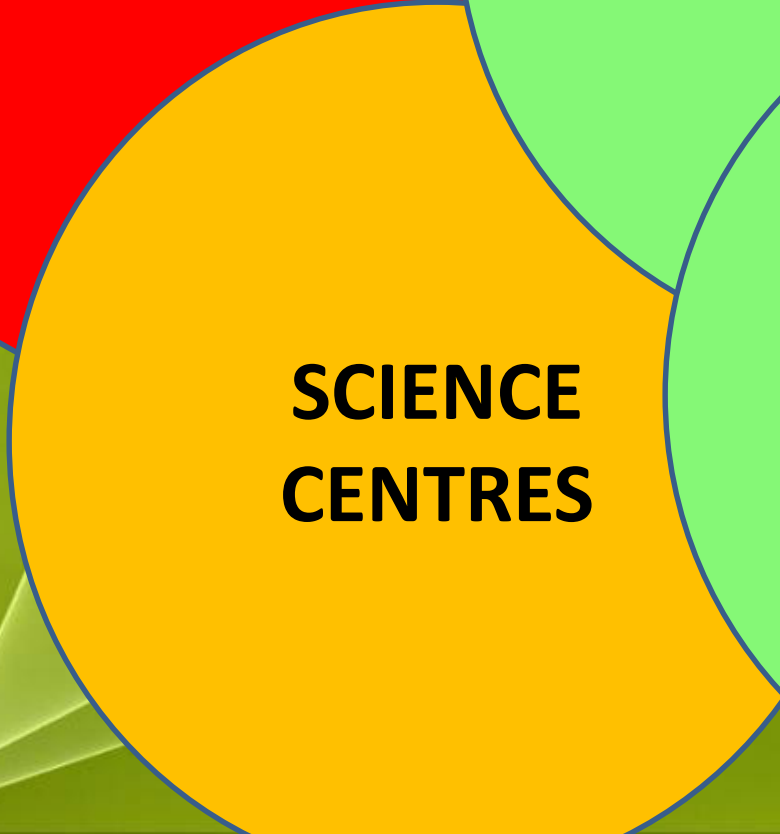
Way forward



PUBLIC



GOVERNMENT



**SCIENCE
CENTRES**



COMMUNITIES



ありがとうございました

SIYABONGA

THANK YOU

非常感谢你

TATENDA

GRAZIE

MERCI BEAUCOUP

ASANTE SANA