Standards development and implementation linking to regulatory framework - case of Zimbabwe

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SAZ Experience (1960)

- SAZ is the national standards body of Zimbabwe, formed in 1957 and incorporated in 1960.
- Has over 50 years’ experience in the standardization business.
- A full member of the International Standardization Organization (ISO), and the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO).
- An affiliate member of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).
- Represents Zimbabwe by actively participating in the SADC, COMESA and Tripartite standards expert group meetings to formulate and harmonize standards for improved market access and regional integration.
- SAZ is a non-government and non-profit organization operating under the Zimbabwe Companies' Act with Articles and Memorandum of Association.
- A General Council which consists of 56 representatives of government, local authorities, professional and academic institutions, industry and commerce governs and oversees the affairs of the Association.
- The General Council determines the overall policy of the Association.
- The Executive Committee is drawn from the General Council, and constitutes the Board which is headed by the Chairman.

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Mission
To facilitate the development and use of standards in order to enhance Zimbabwe's competitiveness and safeguard the welfare of communities.

Vision
To be the recognized and credible centre for standards and quality that actively contributes to sustainable development in Zimbabwe and beyond.

Core Values
Customer satisfaction
Credibility
Transparency
Stakeholder involvement
Employee satisfaction, motivation and growth
Care for the environment
SAZ Services

- Training
- Testing, Inspection & Calibration
- Standards Development & Information
- WTO- TBT National Enquiry Point (NEP) on Standards and Conformity Assessment
- Consultancy in the following areas:
  1. National Quality Infrastructure, Application of standards (SQAM)
  2. Medical Laboratory (ISO/IEC 15189)
  3. Auditor and Laboratory Accreditation (ISO/IEC 17025)
  4. Certification on QMS, EMS, FSMS, OHAS
  5. Certification on products (ISO 17065)
  6. Certification of Persons (ISO 17024)
10 Standards Councils

1. **Automotive and Transportation (AT):** Standardization in the field of automotive and transportation

2. **Building and Civil Engineering (BC):** Standardization in the field of building and civil engineering (the construction sector) – Members of the ZBCA are encouraged to participate

3. **Chemicals:** Standardization in the field of chemicals

4. **Electrotechnical and Information Technology (EL/ICT):** Standardization in the electrical, electronic engineering fields and ICT

5. **Food and Agriculture:** Standardization in the food and agriculture fields

6. **Mining:** Standardization in the mining sector

7. **Materials, Textiles and Packaging (MTP):** Standardization in the field of packaging, materials and textiles

8. **Pharmaceuticals:** Standardization in the field of pharmaceuticals

9. **Safety, Health, Environment and Quality (SHEQ):** Standardization in the safety, health, environment and quality fields

10. **Other Services:** Standardization in the field of the provision of services, e.g. banking, education etc

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Memorandum of Understanding Established

- Regional National Standards Bodies (SWASA, BOBS, NSI, SABS, OCC, ZABS)
- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
- City of Harare
- City of Bulawayo
- City of Mutare
- Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority
- Zimbabwe Leather Development Council (ZLDC)
- Zim-ACP
Current Projects

- Establishment of Solar Testing Laboratory for ZERA
- Development of National Standard ZWS D976: Expanded polystyrene – Modular precast composite concrete panels building system
- Domestic wastewater treatment system (using enzymes) – Demonstration units being constructed, a standard is being developed
- Pesticide Residue laboratory (under construction)
- EU/ITC Trade policy development program (training of trainers)

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The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) has an MoU with the Government of Zimbabwe that recognizes it as the National Standards Body (NSB). The SAZ is not a regulator, and operates as a separate entity from the various regulators that exist. SAZ core business is to facilitate the development of standards and carry out conformity assessment.

The regulatory framework in standardization needs to be a systematic and well coordinated process. In the past it has not been so. However, Commendable progress has been noted especially in the Energy sector. Also efforts are also being made to address Occupational Health and Safety.
Highlights of the challenges

1. There is still need for greater coordination between the NSB and the majority of Regulators.
2. Challenges have been encountered in the Health sector - Development of own standards e.g. Food fortification standards.
3. Regulators investing in conformity assessment - testing laboratories, despite the NSB having the facilities available.

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Conflicting Stakeholder value interests

Regulator

SAZ

Consumer
Conflicting Stakeholder value interests

SAZ VS Regulator
Regulator VS Regulator
Government VS Regulator
Government VS Public
Private Sector VS Government

SAZ
The Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (ZERA) is a Regulatory Authority for the Energy Industry as mandated in the Energy Regulatory Act. Energy standards developed/ approved are used in regulations e.g. Petroleum and Electricity licensing regulations, Fuel Quality regulations and Electricity Appliances Regulations. The standards include product quality - liquid fuels & LPG. More than 10 standards were developed to support the energy sector in 2012, and more standards are being developed to date. Participation by ZERA in Standards Councils and Technical Committee work is commendable. In 2013 the World Standards Day Company Award for Standardization was awarded to ZERA. The Company Award was introduced in 2006 to recognize an organization that makes outstanding contribution to national standardization work. ZERA have made deliberate efforts to link their technical regulatory framework with national standards.

Highlights of Success Stories

The Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (ZERA) is a Regulatory Authority for the Energy Industry as mandated in the Energy Regulatory Act. Energy standards developed/approved are used in regulations e.g. Petroleum and Electricity licensing regulations, Fuel Quality regulations and Electricity Appliances Regulations. The standards include product quality - liquid fuels & LPG. More than 10 standards were developed to support the energy sector in 2012, and more standards are being developed to date. Participation by ZERA in Standards Councils and Technical Committee work is commendable. In 2013 the World Standards Day Company Award for Standardization was awarded to ZERA. The Company Award was introduced in 2006 to recognize an organization that makes outstanding contribution to national standardization work. ZERA have made deliberate efforts to link their technical regulatory framework with national standards.
The National Social Security Authority (NSSA) Regulator in collaboration with the Ministry of Education have drafted a National Safety and Health Policy and the due process to make it law is in progress. This national policy includes among other issues the inclusion of SHEQ in schools, colleges and universities, and requirement for organizations to apply a systematic approach based on OHSAS 18001 to address occupational safety and health. NSSA participation in Standards Councils and Technical Committee work is commendable.
The Zimbabwe Traffic Safety Council (ZTSC), mandated by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development have just concluded drafting the National Road Safety Policy. The SAZ Automotive and Transport Standards Council was requested to give input to this policy. The Zimbabwe Traffic Safety Council participation in Standards Councils and Technical Committee work is commendable.

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Initiatives made by SAZ to improve coordination with Regulators

1. ISO/SAZ conducted an Awareness Workshop on the Role of Standards in Technical Regulatory in Harare in July 2014. The overall objective of the workshop was to raise awareness among national regulatory authorities on approaches and benefits of the use of various standards (including use of conformity assessment mechanisms) in regulations. SAZ requested ISO for technical assistance and the workshop was facilitated by an ISO expert.
1. In March 2014 SAZ organized a WTO/TBT workshop whose overall objective was to raise awareness among national regulatory authorities on approaches and benefits of the use of various standards (including use of conformity assessment mechanisms) in regulations. This workshop was sponsored under the “ACP-EU TBT PROGRAMME”.

2. The Government of Zimbabwe has launched a Consignment Based Conformity Assessment (CBCA) programme. The SAZ is in the process of lobbying the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for involvement so that the Association can play its role as the NSB.

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