

## Project Management Update from Zimbabwe<sup>1</sup>



**By Peter Banda**

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### **New Parliament of Zimbabwe building project now 70% complete**

The new Parliament of Zimbabwe building construction project currently on-going in Mt Hampden Harare is now 70% complete, the project has been at implementation since December 2018 when Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa presided over the ground-breaking ceremony of the construction. The project is being undertaken by a Chinese firm, Shanghai Construction Group, a leading construction group in China. For 10 consecutive years, Shanghai Construction Group has been listed as one of the top 30 Chinese construction enterprises in China.

The new Zimbabwean Parliament Building is the largest project in recent years aided by the Government of the People's Republic of China in a single country in Africa, with a floor space of 33 000 square meters consisting of a six-floor office building, two congress halls and other facilities. (*see pictures below showing image during project kick start and prototype image at completion*)

According to the project plan detailed in the project charter, the Parliament Building was set to be accomplished in a duration of 32 months from December 2018. Given the 70% complete declaration by the project team as of June 2021, technically, this means that the project is sitting on a schedule overrun of about 7 months.

Acting China ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Zhao Baogang says that upon completion, the new complex will help greatly enhance the working condition of the Zimbabwe Parliament.

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“Honourable MPs will work harder for the new legislations and make great contributions to the institutional building of this great country, the new Zimbabwe Parliament building represents the arduous efforts of the second republic and its vision for 2030. This is not just a landmark building in this area, it marks the start of construction of the new city of Harare. Within a few years, a new Harare will take shape. It will attract more visitors and investors into this country”, said Mr Baogang.

The new Parliament of Zimbabwe project is one of the major public sector investment projects enshrined in the country’s 5 Year National Development Strategy blueprint dubbed NDS1 set to run from 2021 to 2025.



*The above is based on announcements by the Zimbabwe national government and news reports in Zimbabwe media.*

## About the Author



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**Peter Banda** is an agile Portfolio Manager with Change Management, Marketing & Project Management Skills, and an accomplished entrepreneur with broad stakeholder management experience. He is a founder member of Zimbabwe's largest Association of Project Managers with a membership of over 4000, Project Management Zimbabwe (PMZ). He has worked in both the private & public sectors during the last 20 years in Zimbabwe, Botswana & South Africa. Peter is a born & passionate teacher, mentor & trainer with skills ranging from Personal Development Planning to Project Management. Peter has presented & published over 30 papers at high profile international conferences & leading newspapers & publications respectively during the last 10 years.

Peter is currently Secretary- General & CEO of PROJECT MANAGEMENT ZIMBABWE (PMZ). Responsibilities cover strategic navigation of PMZ towards the vision covering board advisory and stakeholder management. He was previously a Higher Education Examiner, Facilitator, Lecturer, Curriculum Developer and Assessor for both local and International Diploma and Degree courses for the Zimbabwe Ministry of Higher & Tertiary Education. Peter holds a Bachelors (Hon.) degree and MSc qualification, and is currently studying for a PhD & other certifications. A God-fearing father of 2 lovely daughters & 1 son, Peter likes reading & researching current affairs, coaching others to realise their dreams, and watching soccer & cricket.

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