

## What is the BEAM programme

The Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) was launched by the Government of Zimbabwe in the year 2000. The programme was launched in response to worsening social conditions in the country that were causing the poor to suffer deepening multiple shocks (escalating prices of basic commodities, retrenchments and high unemployment rates, high drop outs of school children and high interest and inflation rates).

## Objectives of BEAM

- To reduce the number of children dropping out, and reach out to children who have never been to school due to economic hardships.
- to prevent irreversible welfare losses for poor households who resort to perverse coping mechanisms, like withdrawing children from school in response to increasing poverty

## How is BEAM fund administered?

BEAM is administered by the Social Dimension Fund in the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare. The Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Enhanced Social Protection Project is responsible for implementation at the national level. The PMU reports to the directorship of the Social Dimension Fund. Implementation is done in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Sport and Culture with which a Memorandum of Agreement has been signed.

## Who chooses the beneficiaries of BEAM?

- The selection process for BEAM is decentralised and found in 61 districts nationally
- The selection process is done at **primary level**
- A community selection Committee is set up to spearhead this process. The Committee is chosen at community meeting usually organised by the local councillor and the various stakeholders in the area.

***NB: local government leaders including the councillors and traditional leaders cannot be part of the Community Selection Committee***

- 30 percent of the CSC are supposed to be women
- **How does one get selected for the BEAM programme?**
- Children who have never been to or have dropped out of school due to economic reasons.
- School record of previous failure to pay fees and levies.
- Consideration for employment status of the head of household.
- The health status of the bread winner/head of household.

- Orphaned status of the beneficiaries.
- Assets owned by the household.

NB: Cases of favoritism and nepotism in the selection process by the Community Selection Committee has been reported by some community members. If you encounter such cases, please contact Transparency International Zimbabwe (TI Z)?

**TIZ is a research based organisation, its broad mandate is to fight corruption and related vices through networks of integrity in line with the Global Strategy. TIZ believes corruption can only be sufficiently tackled by all citizens including people at grass root level. TIZ does this through lobbying for anti-corruption policies and legislation, providing free legal aid services to victims and witnesses of corruption-related cases and advocacy.**

You can contact TI Z from any of the offices in Harare, Bulawayo or Mutare on the following contact details :



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