



Concept Note

Relaunching the Stop the Bleeding Campaign (STB) - Turbo Charged:

The need for Africa to Harness Tax Revenue from Extractives for Adaptation and Resilience Against Covid-19

Introduction and Background

Against the backdrop of the dire situation that many African countries find themselves due to Covid-19, the Stop the Bleeding (STB) campaign will be relaunching the initiative during the 12th edition of the Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI) which will be held virtually from 8 to 12 February, under the theme **“Building forward together, pivoting the extractives sector for adaptation and resilience against COVID-19.”**

One of the main themes for the AMI is promoting domestic resource mobilisation (DRM) hinged on strengthening tax linkages and curbing illicit financial flows (IFFs) in extractives, namely: oil, gas and minerals.

Launched in 2015, the STB campaign was driven by “the strong belief in the voices of mobilized students, trade unions, faith-based organisations and other grassroots social movements to urge decision makers to stop the bleeding of Africa’s resources through illicit outflows.”¹

This drive found an further impetus from the 2015 report of the High-Level Panel (HLP) on Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) out of Africa that established how big the problem was. The report estimated that US\$50 billion was bleeding out of Africa annually with the extractive sector being the driver of the loss to Africa. Indications from the recent report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on Tackling IFFs for Sustainable Development in Africa are that the problem of IFFs is festering. According to UNCTAD, Africa is now losing US\$88.6 billion annually, significantly more than the amount revealed in the report of the HLP on IFFs.

Last year, the 8th edition of the [Pan African Conference on IFFs and Taxation](#), held from 9 to 13 November 2020, was themed **“The Africa We Want Post COVID-19: Optimising Domestic Resource Mobilisation from the continent’s Extractive Sector for Africa’s Transformation.”** Furthermore, the [Global Day of Action on Tax Justice in the Extractive Industry](#) organised by Global Alliance for Tax Justice was observed on 19 November 2020. These events highlighted the importance of harnessing the potential of the extractives sector and as such have laid the foundation for the relaunch of the STB campaign given the direction of the tax justice movement on the extractive sector.

The STB campaign is steered by six diverse pan-African movements, namely: Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA); The African Women’s Development and Communication Network (FEMNET); Trust Africa, African Coalition on Debt and Development (AFRODAD); African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa) and Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU). Due to Covid-19, the STB campaign is now more relevant than ever. The pandemic has thrown more Africans into poverty and further exacerbated the inequality gap both among and withing African countries. The evidence of Africa’s failure to leverage on its natural resource sector compels civil society to double down on its advocacy on extractives to improve the living conditions of its people.

¹ <https://taxjusticeafrica.net/outreach/stop-the-bleeding-campaign/>



Shocking [statistics from African Development Bank's \(AFDB\) president tells a story about the impact of the pandemic in Africa](#). They indicate that 28-40 million people are expected to fall into extreme poverty and 30 million people may lose their jobs. The International Monitoring Fund (IMF) says that Africa will require additional fiscal space of US\$345 billion by 2023 to finance its development needs. Further to this, Africa has not been prioritised in the race to secure Covid-19 vaccines and most countries are looking up to aid and the goodwill of other countries and institutions to protect their people against the pandemic. Limited resources at the disposal of African governments evidently depict a huge discrepancy between the continent's vast mineral wealth and tax revenue flows.

STB Campaign Interventions During AMI

The STB campaign will host one side session to re-launch the STB Campaign on Monday, 8 February 2021 from 14:00 – 16:00 CAT. In addition, the STB campaign will also jointly host two other sessions with the Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), the All-Africa Conference on Churches (AACC) and the Youth Tax Justice Network that will be held under the themes: (1) Bolstering Tax Justice and Fighting Inequality in Extractives, and (2) Topical Resource Governance Issues. These side sessions will also ensure that youth have their own space to learn, share and build solidarity for influencing good resource governance in Africa.



Proposed Agenda

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Activity	Person Responsible	Time
Introductions	Chenai Mukumba, Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network Africa (moderator)	5 minutes
Conversation Starter	Titus Gwemende Oxfam Lead on Extractives for Southern Region	10 minutes
Panel discussion on 'The Pan African DNA of the STB campaign: What drives the STB and its strategies'	Heads of TJNA; FEMNET; AFRIODAD; TrustAfrica; PALU and ITUC	45 minutes
Question and Answer Session	Chenai Mukumba, Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network Africa	15 minutes
Scaffolding the STB on youth voices interlude (i) Podcast	Chenai Mukumba, Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network Africa	10 minutes
Solidarity messages: 1. The African Tax Administrators Forum: The value of civil society voices on tax justice (10 minutes) 2. The Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative: Transparency tools for civil society (10 minutes)	Chenai Mukumba, Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network Africa	20 minutes
Poem		10 Minutes
Closing Remarks	Mukasiri Sibanda, Natural Resource Governance	5 minutes



	Advisor, Tax Justice Network Africa	
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