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SAZ AND CIFOZ PARTNER TO PROMOTE STANDARDS IN ZIMBABWE'S CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ), in partnership with the Construction Industry Federation of Zimbabwe (CIFOZ), held a Standards and Standardization Sensitization Workshop for the construction sector on 12 June 2026 at the SAZ Head Office in Borrowdale, Harare.

The workshop brought together construction industry stakeholders for discussions on the role of standards, certification and conformity assessment in strengthening quality, safety, sustainability and competitiveness across the sector. It formed part of SAZ's continued efforts to promote the use of national, regional and international standards for socio-economic development.

In his welcome remarks, SAZ Director General Cosmus Mukoyi underscored the importance of standards as tools for improving construction outcomes and building confidence among clients, regulators, investors and consumers. CIFOZ Chief Executive Officer Martin Chingaira also addressed participants, highlighting the central role of standards as the invisible infrastructure that supports the construction industry.

“The workshop closed with a call for construction stakeholders to adopt relevant construction standards, promote compliance throughout the value chain, participate in standards development activities, submit new areas for standardization, invest in quality management and certification, and work with SAZ to strengthen the construction sector.”



Participants were taken through an overview of SAZ services, including standards development, standards information services, training, testing, calibration, inspection and certification. Presentations also covered key standards relevant to construction, current technical committee work, technical and engineering solutions, and the practical value of ISO certification in enhancing operational performance and market access.

A major focus of the workshop was the contribution of standards to improved workmanship, structural integrity, environmental management, occupational health and safety, reduced rework and better project delivery. Stakeholders were encouraged to adopt relevant construction standards, participate in standards development activities and invest in quality management systems as a means of improving competitiveness.

Certified organizations, including Bitumen World Zimbabwe and Fossil Contracting, shared experiences on their ISO certification journeys, demonstrating how structured management systems can support growth, improve accountability, reduce risk and open opportunities for broader market participation. The workshop closed with a call for construction stakeholders to adopt relevant construction standards, promote compliance throughout the value chain, participate in standards development activities, submit new areas for standardization, invest in quality management and certification, and work with SAZ to strengthen the construction sector.





INSPIRING FUTURE PROFESSIONALS THROUGH STANDARDS: B AND P STUDY CENTRE VISITS SAZ

The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) hosted learners from B and P Study Centre (High School) on 9 July 2026 for an educational visit aimed at bridging classroom learning with practical industry application. The visit brought together learners from the school's Commercials and Sciences departments, offering them an opportunity to better understand the role of standards in business, science, consumer protection and national development.

The engagement was also part of SAZ's broader initiative to "catch them young" by instilling a quality culture among students at an early stage. By opening its doors to learners, SAZ seeks to nurture awareness of standards beyond industry and into the classroom, helping young people appreciate how quality assurance, business excellence, scientific testing and consumer protection shape everyday life and future career pathways.

During the visit, learners were introduced to SAZ's mandate as the national standards body of Zimbabwe and its mission to develop national standards and promote their use for socio-economic development. The session also unpacked the meaning of a standard, the standards development process, and the principles that guide standardization, including transparency, openness, impartiality, consensus, efficiency, relevance and consistency.

The learners were further taken through SAZ's key service areas, including training, certification, destination inspection, engineering services, and chemical and food technology laboratory services. These discussions helped demonstrate how standards support product safety, business competitiveness, consumer confidence and access to markets.

Emphasis was placed on the practical work carried out in SAZ laboratories, such as chemical analysis, physical and microbiological analysis, mechanical testing, non-destructive testing, calibration, inspection and packaging services.

The presentation also exposed learners to management systems certification, including quality management, environmental management, occupational health and safety, and food safety management systems. Through these examples, learners gained insight into how organizations use standards to improve performance, build credibility, strengthen customer confidence and remain competitive in both local and international markets.

The visit was interactive, with learners participating in ice-breaker activities, question-and-answer sessions, and recap exercises designed to test their understanding of SAZ's role and the benefits of standards. The engagement also provided a platform for career guidance, exposing students to the diverse professional areas within SAZ, including standards development, marketing and business development, procurement, finance and administration, human capital, safety, health, environment and quality, laboratories, engineering and certification services.

By the end of the visit, learners had gained a broader appreciation of how standards influence everyday life, industry operations and national development. The engagement reflected SAZ's commitment to promoting standards awareness among young people and inspiring future professionals to appreciate the importance of quality, safety and standardization in building a competitive Zimbabwe.



WFP DONATION BOOSTS SAZ LABORATORY TESTING CAPACITY

Donation of microwave digester and grinding mill set to improve sample preparation and testing efficiency at SAZ.

The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) received two instruments from the World Food Programme (WFP): a microwave digester and a grinding mill. The equipment is used for sample preparation of solid samples to be analyzed by Inductive Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-OES).

In this interview, the Manager for the Chemical, Food and Technology Laboratory, Rumbidzai Svosve explains how the equipment addresses laboratory needs, improves testing capacity, and benefits clients and stakeholders.

Q: What is the new machine received from WFP, and what is it used for?

We received two instruments, a microwave digester and a grinding mill. The microwave digester is used for sample preparation of solid samples to be analyzed by Inductive Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-OES).

Q: What laboratory needs or challenges does this equipment address?

Previously, the laboratory used conventional digestion techniques, which include muffle furnace ashing and hot plate digestion, for sample preparation. Although effective, these methods required longer processing times and involved multiple handling steps. This new microwave digestion system provides a faster, cleaner, more controlled and safer digestion process, improving efficiency and producing more reliable results for elemental analysis.

Q: How will the equipment improve the laboratory's testing capacity?

The new microwave digestion system complements our existing analytical instruments by streamlining the sample preparation process for trace and heavy metal testing. This integration improves laboratory efficiency, reduces turnaround times, and enables the laboratory to accommodate a broader range of sample matrices, allowing us to better meet the evolving needs of our clients across multiple sectors of industry.



Q: What benefits will clients and stakeholders see from this new equipment?

Overall, the new equipment strengthens service delivery, regulatory compliance, and innovation across multiple sectors. There will be faster turnaround times, increased testing capacity, and improved access to high-quality analytical services. The microwave digestion system enhances the laboratory's ability to support national priorities, including the Food Fortification Programme through trace element analysis and the implementation of the new Statutory Instrument on lead in paints.

It also expands our capability to analyze soil samples for the agricultural sector and provides valuable analytical support to universities and researchers developing innovative products.

Q: How does the equipment contribute to food safety, quality, and standards compliance?

The equipment supports manufacturers in demonstrating compliance with national and international standards, strengthens regulatory monitoring, and helps identify contaminants that could pose risks to consumer health. Ultimately, it contributes to safer products, increased consumer confidence, and improved market access for businesses.

Q: What does WFP's support mean to the laboratory?

WFP's support represents a significant investment in strengthening the laboratory's analytical capacity to provide accurate and reliable testing for food safety, nutrition, and environmental monitoring. Building local testing capacities reduces reliance on external laboratories, supports national priority initiatives such as the Food Fortification Programme and overall contributes to stronger food systems and consumer protection.

Q: Has the team been trained to operate and maintain the equipment?

Yes, the team has been trained by the supplier of the equipment and is competent to operate and maintain the equipment.

Q: What is your message to stakeholders and partners following this development?

We sincerely appreciate the World Food Programme and all our partners for their continued support in strengthening the laboratory's capabilities. Enhanced laboratory capability supports the production of safe, high-quality local products, helps manufacturers comply with regulatory and market requirements, which ensures consumer protection and enhances the competitiveness of Zimbabwean industries. We look forward to continuing collaboration with our stakeholders.



Stay Up to Date with the Latest Published Standards.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. ZWS ISO 14001:2026 | Environmental Management Systems- Requirements |
| 2. ZWS ISO 9000:2026 | Quality management systems - Fundamentals and vocabulary |
| 3. ZWS ISO 19011:2026 | Guidelines for auditing management systems |
| 4. ZWS ISO 4225:2020 | Air quality - General aspects - Vocabulary |
| 5. ZWS ISO 7935:2024 | Stationary source emissions - Determination of the mass concentration of sulfur dioxide in flue gases - Performance characteristics of automated measuring systems technology |
| 6. ZWS ISO 8518:2022 | Workplace air - Determination of particulate lead and lead compounds - Flame and electrothermal atomic absorption spectrometric methods |
| 7. ZWS ISO 11568:2023 | Financial services — Key management (retail) |
| 8. ZWS ISO 24366:2021 | Financial services — Financial services — Natural person identifier (NPI) |
| 9. ZWS ISO PAS 45007:2026 | Occupational health and safety management - Risks arising from climate change and climate change action - Guidance for organizations |
| 10. ZWS ISO 39294: Part 1-1:2025 | Learning technology - JavaScript object notation (json) data model format and representational state transfer (restful) web service for learner experience
Data tracking and access
Part 1-1: 2025: xAPI using JSON serialization and restful data transport |
| 11. ZWS ISO/IEC 20006: Part 2:2015 | Information technology for learning, education and training -Information model for competency
Part 2:2015: Proficiency level information model |
| 12. ZWS ISO/IEC 23894:2023 | Information technology - Artificial intelligence - Guidance on risk management |

13. ZWS ISO/IEC 18045:2022	Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection - Evaluation criteria for IT security - Methodology for IT security evaluation
14. ZWS ISO/IEC 20226:2025	Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Environmental sustainability aspects of AI systems
15. ZWS ISO/IEC 22989:2022	Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology
16. ZWS ISO/IEC 24773: Part 4:2023	Software and systems engineering — Certification of software and systems engineering professionals Part 4:2023: Software engineering
17. ZWS ISO/IEC 25021:2012	Systems and software engineering - Systems and software quality requirements and evaluation (square)- Quality measure elements
18. ZWS ISO/IEC 25045:2010	Systems and software engineering - Systems and software Quality Requirements and Evaluation (SQuaRE) -Evaluation module for recoverability
19. ZWS ISO/IEC 27017:2015	Information technology – Security techniques – Code of practice for information security controls based on ISO/IEC 27002 for cloud services
20. ZWS ISO/IEC 27033: Part 7:2023	Information technology - Security techniques - Network security Part 7: 2023: Guidelines for network virtualization security
21. ZWS ISO/IEC 27037:2012	Information technology — Security techniques — Guidelines for identification, collection, acquisition, and preservation of digital evidence
22. ZWS ISO/IEC 29191:2012	Information technology — Security techniques — Requirements for partially anonymous
23. ZWS ISO/IEC/TS 23167:2020	Information technology - Cloud computing - Common technologies and techniques

24. ZWS ISO/IEC 27033: Part 6:2016	Information technology -Security techniques - Network security Part 6: 2016: Securing wireless IP network access
25. ARS ZW HS 924:2026	Fresh brussels sprouts
26. ARS ZW HS 893:2026	Fresh apples
27. ARS ZW HS 894:2026	Fresh apricots
28. ARS ZW HS 900:2026	Fresh strawberries - Specification
29. ARS ZW HS 901:2026	Fresh berry fruits
30. ARS ZW HS 906:2026	Fresh annonas
31. ARS ZW HS 923:2026	Fresh chinese cabbages -Specification
32. ARS ZW HS 925:2026	Fresh broccoli
33. ARS ZW HS 928:2026	Fresh lettuces and endives -Specification
34. ARS ZW HS 933:2026	Fresh leafy vegetables -Specification
35. ARS ZW HS 972:2026	Fresh artichokes
36. ARS ZW HS 1041:2026	Raw milk
37. ARS ZW HS 1050:2026	Camembert cheese
38. ARS ZW HS 1051:2026	Coulommiers cheese
39. ARS ZW HS 1053:2026	Havarti cheese - Specification

40. ARS ZW HS 1055:2026	Saint-Paulin cheese
41. ARS ZW HS 1056:2026	Samsø cheese
42. ARS ZW HS 1072:2026	Blend of skimmed milk and vegetable fat in powdered form
43. ARS ZW HS 1073:2026	Cheese
44. ARS ZW HS 1076:2026	Extra hard grating cheeses
45. ARS ZW HS 469:2026	Millet Flour
46. ARS ZW HS 1054:2026	Provolone cheese
47. ZWS ISO 8672:2014	Air Quality - Determination of the number concentration of airborne inorganic fibres by phase contrast optical microscopy -Membrane filter method
48. ARS ZW HS 1052:2026	Danbo cheese
49. ZWS ISO 6935: Part 3:1991	Steel for the prestressing of concrete Part 3: Quenched and tempered wire
50. ZWS ISO 9809: Part 1:2019	Gas cylinders - Design, construction and testing of refillable seamless steel gas cylinders and tubes Part 1: Quenched and tempered steel cylinders and tubes with tensile strength less than 1 100 MPa
51. ZWS ISO 9809: Part 3:2019	Gas cylinders -Refillable seamless steel gas cylinders - Design, construction and testing: Part 3: Normalized steel cylinders
52. ZWS ISO 11119: Part 1:2020	Gas cylinders - Design, construction and testing of refillable composite gas cylinders and tubes Part 1: Hoop wrapped fibre reinforced composite gas cylinders and tubes up to 450L

53. ZWS ISO 11119: Part 2:2020	Gas cylinders - Design, construction and testing of refillable composite gas cylinders and tubes Part 2: Fully wrapped fibre reinforced composite gas cylinders and tubes up to 450 l with load-sharing metal liners
54. ZWS ISO 11119: Part 3:2020	Gas cylinders- Design, construction and testing of refillable composite gas cylinders and tubes Part 3: Fully wrapped fibre reinforced composite gas cylinders and tubes up to 450 l with non-load-sharing metallic or non-metallic liners or without liners
55. ZWS ISO 11119: Part 4:2016	Gas cylinders - Refillable composite gas cylinders -Design, construction and testing Part 4: Fully wrapped fibre reinforced composite gas cylinders up to 150 l with load-sharing welded metallic liners
56. ZWS ISO 11363: Part 1:2018	Gas cylinders -17E and 25E taper threads for connection of valves to gas cylinders Part 1: Specifications
57. ZWS ISO 12209:2013	Gas cylinders - Outlet connections for gas cylinder valves for compressed breathable air
58. ZWS ISO 12209:2013/Amd.1:2016	Gas cylinders - Outlet connections for gas cylinder valves for compressed breathable air
59. ZWS ISO 407:2023	Small medical gas cylinders — Pin-index yoke-type valve connections
60. ZWS ISO 5145:2017	Gas cylinders - Cylinder valve outlets for gases and gas mixtures - Selection and dimensioning
61. ZWS ISO 9809: Part 2:2019	Gas cylinders - Design, construction and testing of refillable seamless steel cylinders and tubes Part 2: Quenched and tempered steel cylinders and tubes with tensile strength greater than or equal to 1100 MPa

62. ZWS ISO 9809: Part 4:2021	Gas cylinders - Design, construction and testing of refillable seamless steel gas cylinders and tubes Part 4: 2021: Stainless steel cylinders with an Rm value of less than 1 100 MPa
63. ZWS ISO 10156:2017	Gas cylinders -Gases and gas mixtures - Determination of fire potential and oxidizing ability for the selection of cylinder valve outlets
64. ZWS ISO 10297:2024	Gas cylinders -Cylinder valves - Specification and type testing
65. ZWS ISO 10298:2018	Gas cylinders - Gases and gas mixtures- Determination of toxicity for the selection of cylinder valve outlets
66. ZWS ISO 10298:2018/Amd.1:2021	Gas cylinders - Gases and gas mixtures- Determination of toxicity for the selection of cylinder valve outlets
67. ZWS ISO 11082:1992	Certification scheme for welded fabric for the reinforcement of concrete structures
68. ZWS ISO 11117:2019	Gas cylinders — Valve protection caps and guards — Design, construction and tests
69. ZWS ISO 11363: Part 1:2018/Amd 1:2023	Gas cylinders — 17E and 25E taper threads for connection of valves to gas cylinders Part 1:2018: Specifications
70. ZWS ISO 11363: Part 2:2017	Gas cylinders - 17E and 25E taper threads for connection of valves to gas cylinders Part 2: Inspection gauges
71. ZWS ISO 11513:2019	Gas cylinders - Refillable welded steel cylinders containing materials for sub-atmospheric gas packaging (excluding acetylene) - Design, construction, testing, use and periodic inspection
72. ZWS ISO 11515:2022	Gas cylinders - Refillable composite reinforced tubes of water capacity between 450 l and 3000 l -Design, construction and testing

73. ZWS ISO 13338:2022	Gas cylinders — Gases and gas mixtures — Determination of corrosiveness for the selection of cylinder valve outlet
74. ZWS ISO 14654:1999	Epoxy-coated steel for the reinforcement of concrete
75. ZWS ISO 14655:1999	Epoxy-coated strand for the prestressing of concrete
76. ZWS ISO 14656:1999	Epoxy powder and sealing material for the coating of steel for the reinforcement of concrete
77. ZWS ISO 14657:2005	Zinc-coated steel for the reinforcement of concrete
78. ZWS ISO 22313:2020	Security and resilience-Business continuity management systems — Guidance on the use of ISO 22301
79. ZWS ISO/TR 7470:2023	Gas cylinders - List of provisions
80. ZWS ISO/TR 13086: Part 1:2011	Gas cylinders - Guidance for design of composite cylinders Part 1: Stress rupture of fibres and burst ratios related to test pressure
81. ZWS ISO/TR 13086: Part 2:2017	Gas cylinders - Guidance for design of composite cylinders Part 2: Bonfire test issues
82. ZWS ISO/TR 13086: Part 3:2018	Gas cylinders- Guidance for design of composite cylinders Part 3: Calculation of stress ratios
83. ZWS ISO/TR 13086: Part 4:2024	Gas cylinders - Guidance for design of composite cylinders Part 4: Cyclic fatigue of fibres and liners
84. ZWS ISO/TR 13086: Part 5: 2022	Gas cylinders - Information for design of composite cylinders Part 5: Impact testing of composite cylinders