'The World Against Us': The Vulnerable Group, Marange Diamond Mines and the Corporate Social Responsibility Question

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1 Introduction

Since Zimbabwe (formerly known as Rhodesia) got her independence on 18 April 1980, mining has been one of its major sources of income. At least over 49 minerals are mined in Zimbabwe, the most popular being gold, copper, asbestos, nickel, chrome, coal, iron ore, lithium among others. This endeared the country to foreign conglomerates principally: Lonrho, Rio Tinto, Anglo-American Corporation, Messina, Transvaal, Johannesburg Consolidated Investments, Turner & Newell and Union Carbide; together these multinationals control 80% of the country's mining sector (Uwechue, 1991). However, the successful exploration of diamonds provided the country an additional mineral resource with internationally availed market. This

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also acted as an avenue for any multinationals to invest certain amount of its generated revenue back into the community where it is taking from with the hope of assuaging the conditions of the community where such resources is exploited and fulfilling its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Corporate Social Responsibility is defined as:

> What is or should be the relationship between global corporations of countries and individual citizens. More locally, it is concerned with the relationship between a corporation and the local society in which it resides or operates. It is also the relationship between a corporation and its stakeholders. (Crowther & Aras, 2008)

However, rather than these multinationals or corporations fulfilling their relationship with these stakeholders, they collaborate with a section of the stakeholders, often with the government and other international forces in the neglect and impoverishment of the major stakeholders—the people of these communities. Scholars have examined issues of CSR in all prisms (Beesley & Evans, 1978; Jonker & Witte, 2006; Crowther & Aras, 2008; D'Amato, Henderson, & Florence, 2009; CEBC, 2010) among others. On the Marange Diamond Mines, scholars have also given various perspectives of the situations, (Nichols, 2012; Saunders & Nyamunda, 2016; and even Organisations such as: HRW, 2009, 2010; Partnership Africa Canada, 2012). While most of these perspectives have focused more on the economic and political facets of the phenomenon, very few have examined the vulnerable populations who have been the most affected.

Against this background, this study intends to examine how the vulnerable groups have fared amidst the turmoil of the Marange diamond crisis and how the world has treated them. The 'world' in this context includes the government officials, the international community and international stake holders in diamond business across the world. The significance of this study will not only provide the circumstances of the vulnerable group in Marange but also act as a lesson for business leaders of developing countries, leaders of multinational corporations, stakeholders and humanitarians on the conditions of the vulnerable groups in extractive areas in developing or developed societies.

2 Corporate Social Responsibility, Diamond Companies and Marangeans

The root of the earliest corporations in CSR in early nineteenth century were chartered with public goals and interest objectives as well as private business objectives in mind, but as events such as the world wars, the cold war, and globalization unfolds in the twentieth century, CSR moved beyond philanthropy, although this is not certainly embraced by all business leaders (CEBC, 2010). No doubt that the world is in a state of transition. This transition has further placed more unforeseen demands on the shoulders of businesses and covers a wide range of topics including health, human rights, renewable energy, child labour and eco-efficiency (Jonker & Witte, 2006: 1).

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These wide range of topics are important because they help the business community understand that their responsibilities are not just finance or economic but also in various ways including mass and girl child education, electoral awareness, social welfare, respect of religion and human person among others. However, in coping with these new and emerging new roles, they must be aware that such acts must be sustainable, in that while trying to meet the needs of the present generation, the future generation must not be compromised (D'Amato et al., 2009, 1). In other words, when these businesses strive to fulfil their objectives of making profit and giving back to the society where the profit has been made, the future of the society must be considered. For instance, there were reports that Government and Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) got US $35 million as CSR budget from Mbada Diamonds. Did any part go into Marange? If it did, was this money truly for Marange or to fund the ousted Robert Mugabe's lifestyle and that of his cronies? How responsible have these mining businesses been to Marangeans? Who is reaping and who is sowing: the Marangeans, Zimbabwe government and officials or the diamond mining businesses (PAC, 2012)?

The people of the entire area known as Marange are petty traders, fishermen, mat weavers, and small scale farmers. The Chiadzwa chieftaincy was both the head of the traditional and customary authority over the Marange area and has been able to manage the resources and people through traditional mechanisms including sanctions and incentives including the protection of sacred sites such as the *Ushonje* range, where active diamond mines began. The area where the Chief *Chiadzwa* had authority over is enclosed between *Agoni* Stream to *Singwizi* River, from *Save* River and *Chisawe* Stream to *Odzi* River down to its confluence with *Save* River (Chimonyo, Mungune, and Scott, nd). Since the 1990s when South African mining conglomerate, De Beers began prospecting in the Marange area, around south west of Mutare province, the people and its territory were not popular, and by early 2000, a breakthrough was struck in diamond discovery but on 28 March 2006 when the exploration certificate expired, De Beers did not renew (HRW, 2009).

By June, 2006, the United Kingdom's African Consolidated Resources (ACR) continued the exploration and discovery of diamond, locally known as *Ngoda* in Marange, the lives and livelihood of Marangeans had never been the same. Initially, the villagers had thought that this discovery would industrialise and assuage their conditions; unfortunately, it has brought more problems (EJOLT, 2012). The discovery coincided with the downturn in the nation's economy- hyperinflation, which inadvertently led the people to also seek alternative to farming by engaging in mining the *ngoda* locally. While the ACR tried to guard this treasure jealously by making perimeter fencing, the government through the Minerals Marketing Corporation of Zimbabwe (MMCZ) was planning to regain popularity by wrestling the ACR (Madebwe, Madebwe, & Mavusa, 2011) and declaring the treasure as free for all, perhaps to score political point. Subsequently, artisanal miners, merchants and dealers stormed the area for the diamond rush without submitting to local authority, culture and lifestyle (Chimonyo et al., nd: 6). Little wonder, Welly Marezu observed that, "...but no sooner had the alluvial diamonds been discovered than the place started attracting thousands of artisanal miners, bringing along them murderers, thieves and

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prostitutes...." (Shumba, 2017). This in itself was another form of neo-colonialism and neo imperialism as the customs and traditions of these people including the so called sacred sites were desecrated by the invaders. In an attempt to end illegal mining, operation *Chikorokoza chapera* was launched by the government whereby security and enforcement agencies were stationed to enforce the law in November 2006. Yet, some of these agencies got involved in the illegal deals by retaining some artisanal miners and collected kickbacks from others (HRW, 2010).

By 2007, unemployment had reached 80% (Maguwu and Arimatsu, 2012) and in October 2008, illegal mining activities peaked, with more than 35,000 people from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana, DRC, Mozambique, Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria, Lebanon, Pakistan, United Arab Emirate, Belgium, India, and other countries getting involved in the illegal trade (HRW, 2009: 14). This period also marked the defeat of the ZANU-PF by the opposition; the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) but after Mugabe forced a run-off election which Morgan Tsvangirai withdrew from, after government's clamp down on oppositions which the international community including the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Africa Union observer mission frowned at. It took South Africa's Thabo Mbeki's intervention before a government of national unity was formed but all hopes were soon dashed when Mugabe sidelined the opposition in key appointment including the army, finance, treasury, police and even mineral resources (Christie, 2016: 35). Meanwhile, Africa generated around US $1 trillion of minerals, accounting for 38% of the continent's Gross Domestic Product have been extracted from Africa (Forstater, Zadek, Guang, Yu, Hong, & George, 2010), while Zimbabwe's supposed estimated yield from Marange diamonds would have fetched the country between US $1 and 1.7 billion per annum (Towriss, 2013). In February 2009, after the coalition government was formed, Mugabe and then Minister of Mines, Obert Mpofu secretly granted special grants to *Mbada* and *Canadile* Miners in July 2009 (Maguwu, 2011). A period when Zimbabwe's mining sector grew to more than 30% as the average contribution of the mining sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rose from 10.2% in 1990s to 16.9% between 2009 and 2011, overtaking agriculture. Mineral export also rose to about 230% over 2009 and 2011, making it the leading export sector (Ministry of Finance, 2013; Dhliwayo, 2013). On 9 November, 2010, three more companies, Sino-Zimbabwe Company, *Anjin* and Pure Diamond (a Lebanese firm) were granted license to mine diamonds in Marange. Indeed, mining had become the new goose laying the golden egg of the Zimbabwean economy. But did the mining companies part some of their golden eggs to the Marangeans?

The Diamond mining companies in Marange as part of their CSR promised to invest back into the society especially in terms of social welfare through the construction of bridges, rehabilitation of roads, and provision of health centres among others. With these companies and the government on a 50-50 percentage sharing, it was assumed that losses, profits and responsibilities would also be shared the same way. In fact, government and some of the mining companies (*Mbada* and *Candaile*) had set aside about US $5 million for the resettlement as part of relocation of the community. Unfortunately, these were not done (Mtisi et al., 2011) as espoused by Dr Mushohwe, Member of Parliament, Mutare West (ZELA, 2017: 2). Little wonder,

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the United Kingdom's, Sunday Times (2010) queried, "every day millions of dollars' worth of diamonds leave Zimbabwe from the world's richest diamond field. But none of that money reaches the country's desperate poor. Who are the men plundering a nation's future?" While the question seems to have new answers daily, the conditions of the desperate poor remain greatly abandoned. In November 2011, Mpofu apart from dismissing calls for ministerial responsibilities, was also attributed to have averred that he had no responsibility to ensure that diamond revenues reach the public (PAC, 2012: 2). Some of these businesses apart from not remitting to the government treasury, let alone fulfilling their CSR obligations, usually refuse to also pay taxes, citing that until they recoup their investments which are also over bloated (Ibid: 9). This was supported by the revelation of the then Finance Minister, Tendai Biti that the total Diamond sales for 2012 was US $800 million but only US $45 million was remitted to treasury. This was made in July 2013 (Mushava 2013 in Maguwu 2013: 75).

By 2014, there were about seven companies in Marange. They were: Diamond Mining Corporation, *Anjin*, *Jinan*, *Mbada* Diamonds, *Kusena* Diamonds, *Gyae Nyame* Resources and *Marange* Resources but attempt to checkmate the non-compliance and decay in the activities of the mining companies' necessitated some of their licenses not being renewed and government consolidation of the Diamond Mines in 2015 by forming the Zimbabwe Consolidated Diamond Company (ZCDC). With the government's share of the stake and regulating these companies, it was expected that CSR would not just be done timely, but that it would be observed humanely. Unfortunately, neither the government nor the businesses have lived up to expectations. Indeed, diamond rush and mineral discovery like in most part of Africa, rather than bring succour to Marangeans who have been the victims of these atrocities such as, extra judicial killings, injustice, abuses, torture, rape, environmental degradation and pollution of their areas. What they have got in return has inextricably affected the population and their livelihood. Among this population, certain groups have even become the most affected. These are the vulnerable groups.

3 The Vulnerable Group and Their Ordeals: From Marange to ARDA Transau

The Vulnerable group comprises children, pregnant women, elderly people, malnourished people, and people who are ill or immunocompromised, are particularly vulnerable when a disaster strikes, and they take a relatively high share of the disease burden associated with emergencies. Poverty-and its common consequences such as malnutrition, homelessness, poor housing and destitution is a major contributor to vulnerability (WHO, nd). The World Health Organisation (WHO) goes on to define vulnerability as the degree to which population, individual or organisaton is unable to anticipate, cope with, result and recover from impacts of disasters. Be that as it may, children and women remain the most affected. This state of vulnerability explains

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the challenges of the people of Marange since their land became the darling of the government and foreigners as a result of their naturally endowed resources.

In late 2008 when more than 200 panners were massacred in operation *Hakudzokwi* 'you will not return' (Global Witness, 2010: 6; PAC, 2010) by government's agencies, this singular act has not only created fear but also attendant problems for the vulnerable group. Although the number may not be known but with *Mutare* hospital receiving about 75 corpses, hospitals in *Manicaland* province including *Rusape*, *Chipinge* and *Chimanimani* also received theirs (Chimonyo et al., nd), no doubt that the number of dead were more. It should be noted that some of the lives lost were fathers, bread winners, and heir apparent among others which has, till date engraved an unhealed wounds in the hearts of the families of the deceased. The massacre in 2008 was one of the many atrocities on civilians in Zimbabwe and the first of its kind on Marange after many years of settlement in the area. A woman who lost her husband and teenage son informed how livelihood and care for the six children left behind had been difficult especially with the state of the country's economy. She averred that:

> Since the killing where I lost my husband and son, life has been difficult for me and the remaining children left by my deceased husband. To eat have been from hand to mouth and except my daughters go and sell *mushumba (Diospyros mespiliformis),* we cannot eat. And to my last two daughters, they have also suffered abuses from the hands of the soldiers who molest and harass them before buying from them. (Anonymous interview, 2016)

Mavis Karenyi who lost her husband in 2002 also suffers same fate of catering for seven children after her livelihood-cattle sales had declined. Aside widows, abuse is just one of the many atrocities suffered by this vulnerable population-children. The issue of child labour also rears its ugly head as pressure to generate income for survival has spawned child labour as children of school age have to skip school to gather and vend for firewood at the nearest shopping centre in *Odzi* Township, 10 km away as there are only three schools in the newly relocated ARDA Transau Farms (Shuma, 2017). It was also reported that more than 300 children were forced to work illegally by the security agencies at Marange without reward (HRW, 2009). There are two primaries and one secondary school around the new Farm. The bigger of the two primary schools, *Chirasika* has children learning in makeshift classrooms exposed to vagaries of bad weather, pollution, insecurity and an unfavourable learning environment.

The effect of pollution on the population and the vulnerable can also not be de-emphasised. Although the mining companies were supposed to do an Environmental Impact Assessment before embarking on their activities, this was neglected. While China and India produces the highest around the world, the gradual impact that the mining of diamond is having on Marange seem to be swept under the carpet. However, it should be noted that these pollution has taken different dimensions; water, land and air as a result of the commercialization of mining activities in Marange. The *Save* or *Sabi* River which used to be the source of drinking, laundry, bathing and even source of food for people and livestock in Marange was desecrated by mining activities. Aside environmental impact, fishes were also reported to have died, thereby

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affecting food and increase in typhoid as a result of the air pollution (Maguwu and Arimatsu, 2012: 4). If fishes are natural resources, what about hundreds of livestock which died mysteriously? (Karenji, Shupani and Jena, Interview). More so, the river used to act as a place of comfort and recreation for the vulnerable youths and young children. Unfortunately, what these children have is just the memories of a legacy they once cherished. As a boy puts it, "I loved following my mother to the *Save* River because I heard a lot of stories about it but now that we have relocated to ARDA *Transau* farm, I miss the river". This shows that, although the river served domestic purposes including drinking, bathing, chores, recreation, etc., it is also a symbol of identity. Air and Noise pollution have also contributed to the menace faced by the people as a result of heavy duty trucks but there is more to this than imagined. Another vulnerable life is wildlife, which has lived in their natural habitat in the forest of Marange before the expansion by these mining companies (EJOLT, 2012). Cattles and calves production are in decline and extinction causing loss of family's symbol and livelihood (The Zimbabwean, 2014).

In 2009 when the first relocation began and before the Houses were built in ARDA (Agricultural Rural Development Authority) *Transau*, the relocated families had to first put up in old tobacco farm barns with no schools or clinics which also violated their fundamental human rights (Dhliwayo, 2013: 9) and dignity of human person. Undoubtedly, this makes them liable to insecurity, abuses and homelessness. In 2010, despite the promises of the government that the armed forces stationed at Marange would be removed, abuses still continued. These abuses were targeted at no other than some of the vulnerable groups, such that a girl was forced to work by gun wielding soldiers. As she puts it:

> In February alone, three different groups of soldiers forced me, together with several other villagers, to dig for diamonds and hand them over to the soldiers. Soldiers with guns guard us as we dig. (cited from HRW, 2010)

Kasambala (2010) revealed that women were even stripped and fingers dipped into their private parts to search for hidden diamonds. Two cases of rape were also recorded in March 2010 and scores of physical molestations (Global Witness, 2010: 8; PAC, 2010: 18). It should be noted that in cases like these, aside from infringement of the human rights of the vulnerable group, this can also affect the victims psychologically and even their womanhood which may cause low esteem, *phallophobia* (fear of penis) or *androphobia* (fear of men). Aside these cases, the subsequent plan to relocate more than 4207 families to an identified "farm" for more excavation to take place around the area also sent chills to the people who have lived in that area for years and who have regarded the area as their ancestral home. An interview with an elderly woman in Arda Transau revealed that leaving her home in Marange was like leaving her identity and culture since her house left behind was like a memory of her life, where she even delivered all her six children. She also informed how the condition of her late husband's grave, buried somewhere behind her house in Marange is gradually hunting her (Interview with Margaret [not real name], 2017). In a corollary, 96 year old Welly Marezu shared similar experience that having lived most of his lives in

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Marange, leaving the land of his birth for a new area late in his elderly life to face a future full of uncertainty and insecurity was painful (cited in Shumba, 2017).

One of the problems faced by women as a vulnerable population has also been tied to empowerment. For so many reasons, women have continued to be sidelined, consciously or otherwise in terms of job opportunities. This phenomenon is notable across the world, despite their contributions to the economies of developed cities and countries throughout the world. The case among Marange population is therefore not new as the 49% of the available total staff of the job opportunities for the newly formed Zimbabwe Mining and Development Corporation (ZMDC) recruitment especially among women can be seen as disproportionately low as compared to their male counterparts recruited from the area according to the information provided below:

Department	Females	Males
Engineering	1	78
Finance	1	12
Geology	0	14
HR and administration	15	27
Mining	2	33
Plant	17	199
Security	3	38
Total	39	401

Source (ZELA, 2017)

From the above table, it reveals that women as one of the vulnerable population do not enjoy equal opportunities with their male counterparts in terms of job opportunities; given the fact that some have emerged as the new bread winners after the loss or incapacitation of their husbands or male guardians especially after the 2008 massacre. Despite the plethora of the problems, the situation may seem to be in a continuum as the Secretary of Mines and Mining Development, Professor Gudyanga had reiterated that assistance to local community may be hindered as a result of low productivity at the mines (ZELA, 2017: 2).

But it seems while the government focuses on the people, the conditions of future generation which are predominantly babies and pregnant women have not been duly considered. Just recently, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) revealed that 17 million babies across the world are breathing toxic air which could be damaging the development of their brains, although the most cases are from South Asia (UNICEF, 2017), the activities of mining, oil exploration and gas flaring in Africa may not be unconnected as that of Marange where mining activities have also to an extent affected some babies. A woman informed that while they were at *Chiadzwa*, her baby usually have catarrh and cough but she would use local herbs. Even after having been relocated, it was reported by one Tawanda Mufute that since the roofs of the houses were hurriedly built so that the families could be relocated, about 20 houses had their roofs blown away by violent storms in 2016 (Shumba, 2017).

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In cases like this, there is no doubt that some of the families with babies exposed to cold weather or such conditions could be one of the children exposed to such environmental hazard as espoused by the UNICEF Report.

The nursing and pregnant population is not exempted. The lack of provision of health facilities by these mining companies after relocating them from Marange has also led to the increase in home deliveries. The negative effect of home deliveries especially in the hands of unskilled birth attendant cannot be over emphasised as some women have lost their lives (TellZim News, 2016), coupled with a sharp increase in still births and infant mortality (Senior Parliamentary Reporter, 2014). Aside, women have also developed diseases that could not be shared with their husbands or male counterparts (Interview with Celia Shupani in ZELA, 2015 Documentary).

Moreover, women continue to be caught in the cross fire even after most of them have been relocated to a modern housing facilities. But the architectural designs did not also take into cognizance of the traditional family settings which were often provided for polygamy. This is because such settings have been largely disrupted and created some sort of conflicts in the homes. A woman observed that with the three bedroom flat, and a separate kitchen-managed by all, this has made her fellow wives to poke into whatever she prepared and more often, ensued in conflict since their relocation. One of the elderly chiefs shared complementary view that the job he did to take care of his wives before relocation was farming and domestication of animals but since relocation, the disturbance fee has been exhausted and other allowances expected have not been paid, and this has inextricably affected the management of his home, his wives and children. As if this was not enough, a man who took a new wife after the relocation and first payment of allowance shared his own side:

> When they paid the disturbance allowance and promised other ones, I took a new small wife I was courting hoping by the time they pay the rest, I will invest and make her happy, but with this, I cannot fulfill what I promised her especially with this economic situation in the country. I may let her go to her father's house till things are better since she is a young girl in the midst of the older ones. (Anonymous, interview at Arda Transau, 2015)

The situation painted above show that provision of hastily built new facilities by the companies and government may be akin to a devil's gift. It has brought the people into modern lifestyle as the cost of building a single housing unit was estimated by government and the companies at about $50,000 (Shumba, 2017), but it has not changed their being or economic level which was averagely fair before the relocation and recent complaints of crack in the walls and structures are prevalent.

Besides, water has even become scarce in Arda Transau, that companies now demand US $5 per month from the residence (Mbiti, Mapunga, Majuru in ZELA, 2015 Documentary). The scarcity of water has also had a multiplier effect on public and maternal health. It led to water borne diseases, six to seven death daily, cattle dying, food insecurity, etc. (ZELA, 2015). For example, the health centre has not been able to cater for maternal patients as pregnant women are asked to bring a bucket or drum of water to clinics before delivery (Ibid). This reaffirms the presence without essence of these facilities and the state of the vulnerable in Marange. Again, who suffers the most? There is no doubt that they are: Women, children, elderly,

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unemployed, the sick among others who make up the vulnerable group. Against these plethora of cases especially narratives from those who fear that more revelations may trigger a sort of discouragement from government and mining companies to fulfil their promises, what has the world done to assuage the conditions of these people as posed by the woman, who said it seems the world has abandoned them (the Marangeans). But who is the 'world' in this context and how has it abandoned the Marangeans?

4 The World Against Us: How the 'World' Ignored the Vulnerable Groups in Marange

A woman yet to be relocated but whom some of her extended families said, "It seems the world has forgotten us here in Marange". Another woman known as Musaamba puts it this way:

> Seeing my family after almost three years was like I had come back from another planet or from the dead. I sometimes cry when I think about them. The government has failed to protect us; the constitution and authorities should be the guarantor of our rights. **'Us' here translates to: The authorities, international community, International Criminal Court, Africa Court of Justice and the United Nations** [emphasis ours] (cited in Shumba, 2017).

By these statements, they meant the government and those who have disturbed their once peaceful and ancestral land due to the discovery of diamonds. But can Musaamba be right? In order to refute or support these allegations, efforts of stake holders including the mining companies, government; its officials and agencies and international partners in this scenario are examined. The activities of the mining companies provoked a CSO member when she asked, "So now you're taking the money, you are killing the people…polluting the river with sewage (interview from Jena in ZELA, 2015). This is a reflection of what has been sowed by these companies and reaped by Marange and Marangeans. The companies are also fingered to have also bribed some of their local leaders against standing up for their rights of the communities.

One of the principal sources of problem of Zimbabwe, *Marangeans* together with the vulnerable population is the Constitution as instituted by the women above. Its lopsided and haranguing nature gives absolute power to the president. For instance, the Zimbabwe Mines and Mineral Act (ZMMA) vests the minerals in the President, meanwhile in Botswana, the Botswana Mines and Mineral Act (BMMA) refers that the minister act in the public interest whereas the ZMMA requires the Minister to act according to the order of the President. This alone show that the interest of the president is paramount than that of the people (CNRG, 2013a). The import of this is that the discovery of mineral rather than serve the people and assuage the vulnerable population's conditions, demands that the interests of the president must be considered first. What about those who should protect these groups?

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It is unfortunate that the security agents in Zimbabwe from the National Army, Air Force, Central Intelligence Organisation, Police and other non-uniformed officials have also been fingered not only in the human rights abuse but also in the exploitation of the situation to enrich their pockets. The HRW (2009) revealed the nature of lawlessness and massive shady activities of these agencies in Marange rebuff human rights violations, including extrajudicial killing, beatings, torture, forced labour and child labour and smuggling of diamonds. The cases of harassment, groping and molestations were rife but that of rape appears scanty, as a result of the silence and fear of military and police reprisals and brutality. Perhaps, in the future, more cases such as forced homo-sexuality may even be revealed. The Human Rights Watch (2009) revealed that some women volunteered themselves to the police for sex in order to get into the diamond mines so they could mine and get some diamonds for sales. Be that as it may, most victims of such exploitations remain, children and women.

Around, 2010, the African Consolidate Resources (ACR) Advisor, Greg Sebborn and ZANU-PF Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Mines and Energy, Edward Chindori-Chininga had alleged that the decision to halt the auction of about 300,000 carat by Mbada was made by the acting Minister of Mines Emmerson Mnangawa while the actual Minister, Obert Mpofu was on leave. Sebborn speculated that Mnangawa, who is notorious for having profited from Zimbabwe's plundering of mineral resources in the Congo after Zimbabwe's incursion in 2008 acted either because he saw the auction, in violation of Government of Zimbabwe procedures and the Kimberly Process action plan as a potential embarrassment to Zimbabwe, or because he had not been getting a cut from mining profits. Chindori-Chininga accused Mpofu of characteristically being a 'crook' and 'thief' who had unlawfully entered into partnerships with Mbada and Candile (Ray, 2020). This shows that government agencies, rather than do the right thing by encouraging how the people and vulnerable population could benefit from these resources, the contrary in form of self-aggrandizement was the order. Although in November 2012, government unveiled a diamond policy to address some of these salient challenges with the main aim of promoting the sustainable development of the diamond industry for the benefit of all Zimbabweans but despite its noble idea, it lacked the political will and did not address so many fundamental issues such as transparency, gender, environmental impacts, traditional leadership roles, lack of separation of power, community participation, investor identification among others (CNRG, 2013b). If the government seem to have failed in neglecting these people, what about the international communities?

Amongst the unending list of the international communities are the neighbours through regional SADC, The African Union, the Kimberley Process, the International Criminal Court (ICC), the UN and its various agencies. The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) set up in January 2003 in the wake of a brutal diamond conflicts across the mineral rich areas of Africa: Angola, Sierra Leone, Liberia etc., with the aim to cushion the trade in conflict on diamonds and effect of human rights abuses (Global Witness, 2010) and crimes against humanity in the process. It further hoped to exclude conflict diamond in the international market. In order to hit the ground running, it began its Review mission in Zimbabwe in June 2009 after the report

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of the *Hakudzokwi* campaign and found evidence of human right abuses, racketeering, smuggling to Mozambique, a non KP-participant among other shortcomings. Against this backdrop, it recommended the country's suspension for six months (Kimberley Process, 2009; Global Witness, 2010: 6). In fact the mission's head, Liberian Deputy Minister of Mines Kpandel Fayia, advised:

> Minister, on the issue of violence against civilians, I need to be clear about this. Our team was able to interview and document the stories of tens of victims, observe their wounds, scars from dog bites and batons, tears, and on-going psychological trauma (cited in Global Witness, 2010: 7).

A statement as incriminating as this ought to have been taken seriously and acted upon. In fact, it is an indictment on the government's side of serious abuses but despite this plethora of evidences among others, Zimbabwe continue to be a member and when some of the members of the KP, especially the CSO protested against such affront (PAC, 2012; Smillie, 2013), the KP former Chair, Bernard Esau argued that the KP is not a human rights organisation (cited from Independent Online, 2009 in Global Witness, 2010: 9). If this is true, what then is the aim of the KP or was the KP shying away from its responsibility? At its November 2009 annual plenary in Swakopmund, Namibia, a Joint Work Plan was proposed to address rather than suspend the country after more than 150,000 petitions were received (Global Witness, 2010: 10). No doubt that this is not just a case of negligence but double dealing whereas, the blood of the innocent still seek justice while the cases of abuses and neglect of the Marange population together with its vulnerable population which includes children and women continues to seek justice. No wonder, Nichols (2012) called for a redefinition of blood diamond to include rape, murder or human rights violations.

South Africa, being a regional power bloc in Southern African which was even involved in the transition after the 2008 election could not do much as a result of the question of sovereignty (Maguwu and Arimatsu, 2012: 5). In fact, in June 2011, South Africa's Mines Minister, Susan Shabangu demanded during the KPCS intercessional in Kinshasa that despite the irregularities committed by Zimbabwe, the country's sanction should be lifted since Zimbabwe was compliant with the KP's minimum requirement. Subsequently, it was alleged that Shubanga subsequently purchased diamonds worth US$1 million from Zimbabwe (Rawoot, 2011 in Maguwu, 2013). This raises another question, should the issue of 'minimum requirement' supersede human rights abuse? More so, the SADC which could force Zimbabwe to respect international best practices and correct human rights abuses including displacement without adequate provisions associated with the entire people including the vulnerable groups of Marange through sanctions has also been handicapped. This was exacerbated when the SADC Tribunal was shut down by Mugabe after its ruling in favour of the White Farmers (Ibid, 6). London has been conspicuously quiet on these situations too (Ibid). But why is the almighty London quiet?

Despite being one of the acclaimed defender of rights across the globe, a responsibility she had taken up since the anti-slavery campaign in the nineteenth century, London seem to be one of the safe havens where most of the corrupt, proceeds and

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beneficiaries of the diamond find itself. Lord David Chidgey of the United Kingdom's House of Lords confessed that London remains the choice for such looting in the Crimea, Zimbabwe and even bauxite mines of Guinea (The Insider, 2016). Some of these monies are stashed in London banks and the acclaimed defender has not asked how this blood and ritual money got into her economy or even make efforts to sanction the depositors and their accomplices. Aside London, these diamonds have also found its market in India, China and United Arab Emirates and other countries as well (Ibid, 7) and on walls and bodies of consumers and retailers who have not bothered to ask the kind of diamond used, just ornamental or blood? Even the United States which had supported the KP administrative decision adopted on Zimbabwe in November, 2009 (Brooks-Rubin, 2010) and having taken over the KP in January 2012, although condemned the Zimbabwe's political violence but her subsequent silence following the lifting of the ban tests the true stance of the US (Nichols, 2012: 680), for the diamond or Marange justice? And despite her pledge to defend the country's 2013 election (US Senate, 2013: 5), this again was a chasm. Perhaps a credible election under the US supervision would have changed the Marange script. The European Union is not exempted either. This is so because in September 2013, Belgian and diamond officials successfully lobbied the EU to lift sanctions on Marange Diamonds which allowed the diamonds to be sold in Antwerp, Belgium (Zimnisky, 2014).

Conclusively, Zimbabwe's government and the mining businesses promised that they would not relocate the people until social amenities and buildings were provided. Although lately done, efforts at building a standardised 'model 3', three bedroom apartment, a detached toilet and kitchen were made (Dhliwayo, 2013: 9). More so, the government of erstwhile President Obama through sanctions intervened in the political and human rights situation in Zimbabwe, likewise some Non-Governmental and Civil Societies Associations such as the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA), Chiadzwa Community Development Trust (CCDT) among others. Despite the efforts of these stakeholders, justice has not been done to the death of more than 200 people who lost their lives in 2008 as well as the fulfilment of the CSR of these businesses not only through remittance but respect of humanity. Justice will not be done until the government starts by looking in the mirror, likewise fulfilment of happiness and sustainable livelihood of the Marange displaced population and vulnerable groups. But how can this be actualized when the ousted president Mugabe confessed that although since 2008, about $15 billion had been made, only $2 billion had only reflected in the treasury besides, and that lots of smuggling and swindling had taken place and the companies that had been mining [have] robbed the nation of its wealth, likewise the people appointed to be the eyes and ears of government in Chiadzwa had been complicit in the looting (Christie, 2016). Is there then hope for the people and vulnerable population of Marange?

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5 Conclusion

A resource that should be a source of happiness is now a curse leading to the gross loss of agricultural and grazing land, grappling with deforestation, water and air pollution, people being forcibly evicted and relocated without fair and adequate compensation, and are not able to share the benefits created by mining ventures (Dhliwayo, 2013) their identity, culture, livelihood and history also affected. This is coupled with the effect on their sustainable future. Articles 21 and 22 of the Africa Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights of 1981, the UN Article 48 on Human Rights, Article 10 of the European Union Human Rights Convention of 1950 among others are clear on issues of indigenous resources, especially human rights which supersedes any other right, likewise the Child Rights Act of 2003 to protect the children and recently the Sustainable Development Goals on sustainable cities, development, production and energy all appear threatened. Despite some of these charters and conventions that have reiterated the right of man and *ipso facto* that of the Marange People especially the vulnerable population, the world have done little in terms of intervention and assuaging the sufferings, neglect and abuse of Marangeans. Hope is only what the Marangeans can continually dream of. The recent installation of an erstwhile Mugabe's hatchet-man, Emmerson Mnangawa of the Lacoste group against that of Grace Mugabe's Generation 40 or 'G40' is another debilitating factor. It is hoped that government's acknowledgement of the 2008 massacre could be the first of a reconciliatory and healing move. On human rights abuses and violations, is torture not a crime against humanity? If this is so, why has the International Criminal Court, the UN and other stakeholders remained quiet about the massacre of 2008 and forced displacement in Marange without adequate notification? On the CSR question, government and other stakeholders must hold themselves accountable, rather than trade blames and give excuses of low production caused by its sheer negligence and remorseless to the cry of the future of Marange people and its vulnerable group. Except this is done, it will be trite to truly say, "The world is against the Marange people, together with its vulnerable population".

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