

NAFPs Swaziland and Zimbabwe Scoop 2018 Certificates of Recognition

The National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) for Swaziland and NAFP–Zimbabwe were awarded certificates of recognition for their effort and contributions towards SADC accreditation goals. The NAFP Award ceremony was held in conjunction with the 13th SADCAS Annual General Meeting held on 14 March 2018 at The Birchwood Hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa. Following the SADCAS Board’s decision undertaken at its 53rd Meeting held on 15 February 2018, 2 Awards were presented with NAFP–Swaziland winning the Most Effective NAFP Certificate of Recognition and NAFP–Zimbabwe, the Most Improved NAFP Certificate of Recognition.



NAFP–Swaziland Officers Pose for a photo with SADCAS Board Members



NAFP–Zimbabwe Officers Pose for a photo with SADCAS Board Members

The 2018 Awards are based on the reports for the period 1 January up to 31 December 2017 using five (5) criteria weighted as follows:

- ❑ Appointed by respective government to serve as NAFP (10);
- ❑ Shall have served as NAFP for at least two (2) years (5);
- ❑ Regularly and timeously submits quarterly reports on activities to SADCAS (20);
- ❑ Effectively progressed implementation of their respective country's action plan (30); and
- ❑ Contributed towards SADCAS goals (35).

The criteria were weighted according to their importance with the latter 2 criteria being considered key. The criteria on Contributions towards SADCAS goals also took into account facilitation of payments of government contributions towards SADCAS sustainability.

Based on all the reports for the period 1 January to 31 December 2017, an evaluation matrix and a summary of NAFPs quarterly reports submissions and estimate realization for the period were prepared which formed the basis of the nominations. There was a slight decline in action plan implementation by NAFPs with the average being 69% for 2017 compared to 73% for the 2016 year. NAFPs – Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zimbabwe registered improvements whilst NAFPs Angola, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia registered a decline in estimate realization. NAFPs Seychelles' average estimate realization for the period under review remained at the same level as for the 2016 year.

Based on the evaluation matrix NAFPs-Swaziland was identified for the 2018 Most Effective NAFP Award with NAFP-Swaziland coming up with the highest score at 93. NAFP Zimbabwe registered the highest improvement over the past year and was identified for the 2018 Most Improved NAFP Award with NAFP- Zimbabwe coming up with a score at 78.



Award Winners with SADCAS Management and Board Members

Most Improved NAFP Award

NAFP–Zimbabwe - The two NAFPs Ms Riyana Chibanda and Mrs Mildred Machiri were appointed in 2015 and in 2008 respectively and have made good progress during the period under consideration as evidenced by a high country average on national action plan realization 80%. Awareness and promotion activities were the main activities

undertaken with a survey and meetings being held with accredited and under process CABs to understand the challenges that they were facing in remitting foreign currency as payment for services rendered. Meetings were also held with the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe who have been facilitating payments since that meeting. Three applications for accreditation from a medical laboratory, an inspection body and a certification body were received, 2 expressed interests in accreditation and 4 expressed interests in training were received by SADCAS during the period under review albeit holding one training course during the year.

As at 31 December SADCAS had accredited the highest number of facilities in Zimbabwe at 20 followed by Tanzania at 18 and Botswana at 16.

Most Effective NAFP Award

NAFP-Swaziland continued to make great effort in awareness raising and promotional activities. The two NAFPs Mrs Sthembiso Sybil Dlamini and Ms Phindile Priscilla Dlamini were appointed in 2006 and 2010 respectively and made very good progress in the implementation of national action plan which contributes to SADCAS goal realization. This is evidenced by the highest country average of realization of 91%. NAFP-Swaziland submit regularly quarterly reports and always well ahead of the prescribed times. During the period under review, SADCAS received 2 accreditation applications from a testing and calibration laboratory from Swaziland, undertook 4 training courses and handled 5 expressed interests on training.

The NAFP Award ceremony is an annual event held in conjunction with the SADCAS Annual General Meeting to recognize NAFPs efforts and contributions towards SADC goals on accreditation.

