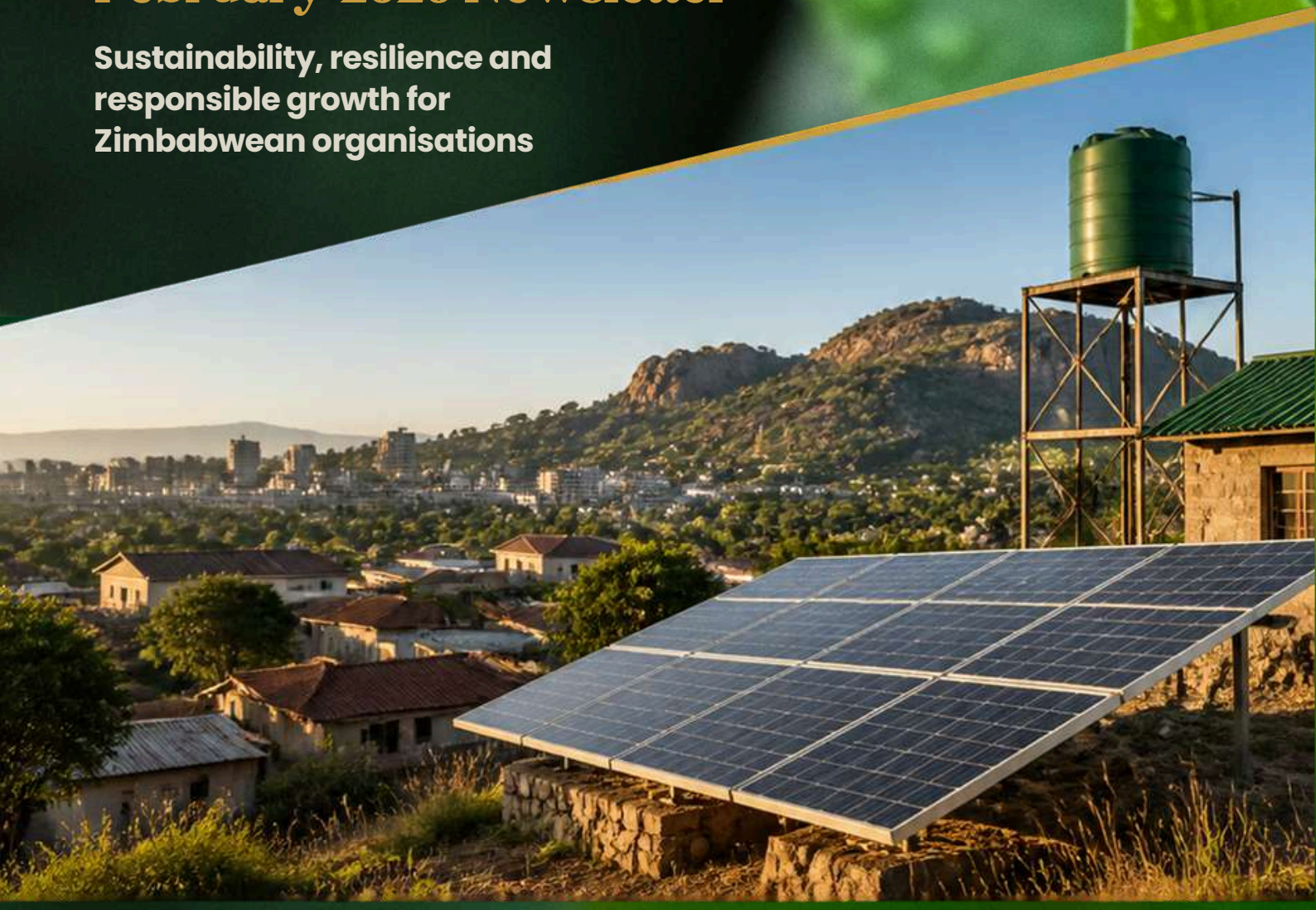
INSAF Sustainability Digest

February 2026 Newsletter

Sustainability, resilience and responsible growth for Zimbabwean organisations



insaf
Institute for Sustainability Africa

'Advancing Sustainability Initiatives for Africa'

Editor's Note

Sustainability is increasingly connected to business resilience, financial decision-making, energy security, climate preparedness, resource stewardship and social value. This issue brings together perspectives and developments shaping those priorities across Zimbabwe and the region.

Our aim is to inform thoughtful decisions and encourage practical action that supports long-term value for people, communities and the environment.

We welcome your feedback and contributions.

INSAF Editorial Team



February at a glance

- **Business and financial strategy**
- **Renewable energy and energy efficiency**
- **Climatic risk and resilience**
- **Circular economy and responsible resource use**
- **Social sustainability**

Verified February event in this issue

SADC Sustainable Energy Week was held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 23–27 February 2026.

- **Business and financial strategy**
- **Renewable energy and energy efficiency**
- **Climate risk and resilience**
- **Circular economy and responsible resource use**
- **Social sustainability**

Two shifts shaping organisational sustainability



1 Sustainability is business and financial strategy

Sustainability should be connected to governance, risk, capital allocation, operational continuity, procurement, market expectations and long-term value creation.

Implications for Zimbabwean organisations:

- Make material sustainability issues visible to boards and finance teams.
- Connect targets to budgets and decision rights.
- Use evidence rather than broad claims.
- Consider how climate, energy and resource exposure may affect continuity and cost.

SADC Sustainable Energy Week, Victoria Falls, 23-27 February 2026.

2 Renewable energy and energy efficiency

Energy reliability, cost management, emissions reduction and resilience are closely linked. Organisations that manage energy well protect operations today and strengthen competitiveness tomorrow.

Suggested actions, pending organisational context

MEASURE
Establish an energy baseline.

PRIORITISE
Identify efficiency opportunities.

INVEST
Assess renewable options.

MONITOR
Define responsible ownership and measurement.

Resilience is built across systems

Sustainable organisations anticipate change, steward resources responsibly and invest in people and partnerships. Building resilience means strengthening the systems that connect climate, resources, people and performance.



3 | Climate risk and resilience

Climate impacts and the transition to a low-carbon economy create both risks and opportunities. Resilient organisations understand exposures and act delisively.

- **Physical risks:** extreme weather, water stress, heat, flooding, drought and ecosystem disruption that can affect assets, supply chains and communities.
- **Transition risks:** policy and regulatory change, market shifts, technology evolution and changing stakeholder expectations.
- **Organisational preparenness:** governance, data, skills, plans and partnerships that enable timely action.

Suggested actions, pending organisational context

Build scenario-aware plans, map critical dependencies, test continuity measures, invest in adaptation and strengthen governance and reporting.

4 | Circular economy and responsible resource use

Resilience grows when we design out waste and keep materials and assets in use for as long as possible.

procurement • Repair, reuse, recovery • Better materials management

Suggested actions, pending organisational context

Map material flows, set reduction targets, embed circular criteria in procurement, support repair and reuse models, and improve waste segregation and recovery.

5 | Social sustainability

Resilient organisations are anchored in people, relationships and fair value creation.

- Decent work • Health and safety • Inclusion and equity • Skills and development • Community relationships • Supply-chain responsibility • Meaningful stakeholder engagement

Suggested actions, pending organisational context

Strengthen policies and practices, build capability, engage early and act, and measure outcomes that matter to people and communities.

What this means in Zimbabwe

Climate and service disruption can affect operations.

Prepare for extreme weather, water variability and power interruptions.

Resource efficiency can support resilience.

Use less, use better and keep materials in productive use for longer.

Social trust and capability influence implementation.

Invest in people, safety, skills and community partnerships.

Local context matters in setting priorities.

Reflect local ecosystems, economies, culture and regulatory realities.

A systems view of organisational resilience



Stronger systems. Shared value. Sustainable Zimbabwe.

From perspective to practice



Sustainability becomes value when organisations turn perspective into practical decisions, disciplined action and clear accountability.



INSAF perspectives

EDITORIAL PERSPECTIVE FOR CONSIDERATION

Understand context

Ground decisions in local realities, sector dynamics and long-term priorities.

Identify material issues

Focus on what matters most to people, planet and performance.

Strengthen governance

Embed oversight, roles and integrity in how decisions are made.

Build evidence

Use credible data and standards to inform, measure and improve.

Involve stakeholders

Engage openly with those who affect and are affected by decisions.

Turn priorities into action

Translate priorities into accountable actions, track progress and adapt.

What organisations can do next

- ☐ Name an executive and board-level owner
- ☐ Map material sustainability, climate, energy and social issues
- ☐ Establish a baseline and evidence trail
- ☐ Review energy, resource and operational dependencies
- ☐ Engage employees, communities, suppliers and other stakeholders
- ☐ Set a small number of measurable priorities
- ☐ Integrate actions into budgets, risk registers and business planning
- ☐ Review progress and communicate carefully, avoiding unsupported claims.

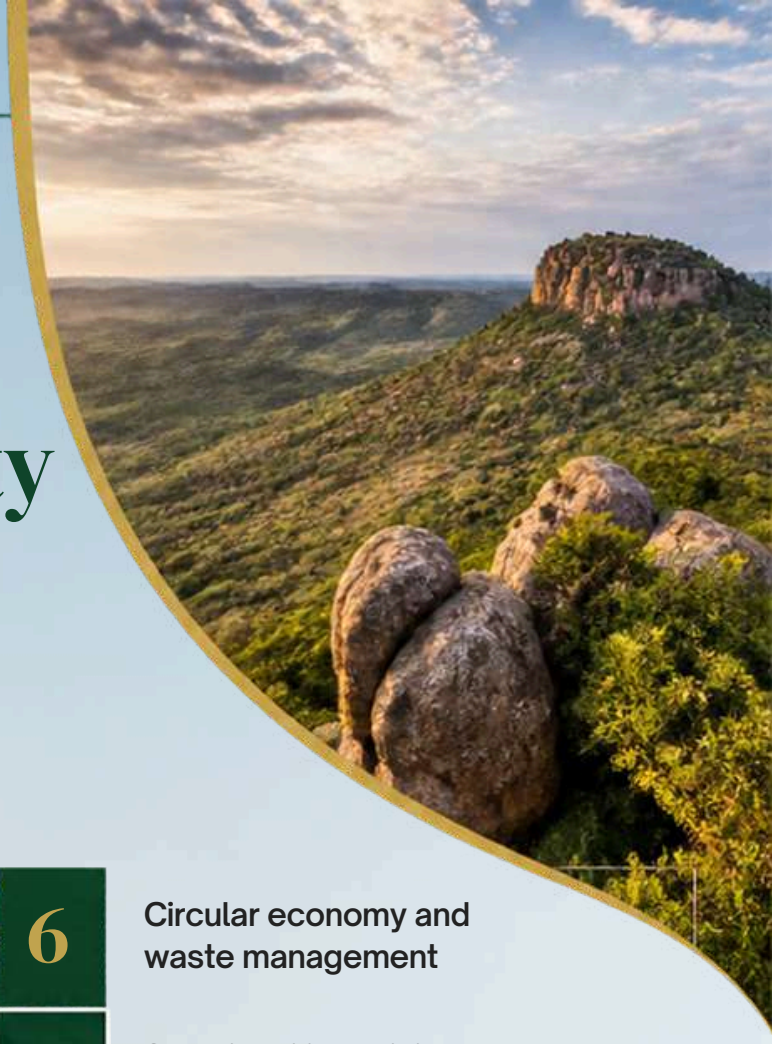
Zimbabwean organisation lens

Action guided by clear priorities builds organisational resilience and strengthens the capacity to manage shocks and transitions. It supports affordability through efficient use of energy and resources, enhances credibility with stakeholders and investors, and improves compliance readiness as standards and expectations evolve. Most importantly, it helps create durable, long-term value for organisations, communities and the country.





How INSAF Can Support Your Sustainability Journey



Areas of support.

1. ESG and sustainability strategy
2. Sustainability reporting and IFRS S1/S2 readiness
3. Climate risk and resilience assessments
4. Carbon footprint and environmental assessments
5. Renewable energy and resource efficiency advisory
6. Circular economy and waste management
7. Sustainability training and capacity building
8. ESG governance and stakeholder engagement
9. Sustainability research and impact measurement

Start with the priorities most relevant to your organisation's context, risks and ambitions.

www.instforsustainafrica.org | admin@insafrica.org.zw | +263 242796501 | 65 Whitwell, Borrowdale West, Harare