



SCHOOLS MONETARY POLICY CHALLENGE

Shaping the Next Generation of Financial Sector Leaders

FACT SHEET

Everything You Need to Know



The **Big 5** Upgraded **ZiG**

Stable. **Secure.** Sustainable

Yakanaka. Yakasimba. Inotenga. Inhle. Iqinile. Iyathenga.

Everything You Need to Know:

Q: 1. What is the Schools Monetary Policy Challenge (SMPC)?

- A:**
- The SMPC is a national competition run by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe where learners simulate the role of a Child Governor and Deputy Governors, analysing real economic issues and presenting policy ideas like professionals.

Q: 2. Who can participate in the SMPC?

- A:**
- All registered secondary and high schools in Zimbabwe, including Government, mission, and private schools, ensuring nationwide participation.

Q: 3. How does a school register for SMPC?

- A:**
- Schools must register through their Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education District by 30 June 2026. Where challenges may arise, support is available via email smpc@rbz.co.zw or WhatsApp (077 159 4807).

Q: 4. Who selects the SMPC team?

- A:**
- Each school is responsible for selecting its best-suited learners to form a team, guided by a teacher who acts as a mentor throughout the competition.

Q: 5. What is meant by “Does your school have what it takes?”

- A:**
- This is a rallying call to all Zimbabweans to be involved through participating, supporting and encouraging teams from their schools.
 - “Your school” goes beyond learners. It includes:
 1. Former students
 2. Parents
 3. Local community
 4. Churches and organisations
 5. School authorities
 - It highlights that success comes from collective effort, not just the team.

Q: 6. How can “you” support your school?

- A:**
- You can support by:
 1. Encouraging early registration and participation
 2. Sharing real-world economic experiences
 3. Providing mentorship, motivation, and resources
 4. Sharing pictures and video of your schools SMPC activities on the hashtag #RBZSMPC
 5. Most importantly, push your school to register and submit their expression of interest letter by 30 June 2026.

Q: 7. What is the team composition?

- A:**
- Each school fields one team made up of:
 - 1.1 Governor (team leader and main presenter)
 - 2.2 Deputy Governors (support research and Q&A)
 - 3.1 Teacher mentor guiding the team

Q: 8. Is there a preferred class level for participants?

- A:**
- Yes. Schools are encouraged to select learners in non-exam classes:
 - Form 3 and/or Form 5 (Lower Sixth)
 - However, talented learners from lower forms can also be selected, and teams can mix different forms.

Q: 9. Are mixed schools required to have mixed-gender teams?

- A:**
- Yes. Mixed schools *must* include both male and female learners to ensure representation and promote gender equality in leadership.

Q: 10. How many teams can a school submit?

A:

- Each school is allowed to submit only one official team, ensuring fairness and equal opportunity to its learners.

Q: 11. What are the stages of the competition?

A:

- The SMPC progresses through four competitive levels:
 1. Cluster
 2. District
 3. Provincial
 4. National Finals
- Each stage becomes more advanced and competitive.

Q: 12. How many schools will reach the national finals?

A:

- Only 10 schools (one from each province) will compete at the national level, making it highly competitive.

Q: 13. What do participants do in the competition?

A:

- Teams will:
 1. Conduct research and complete assignments
 2. Run financial literacy activities in their communities
 3. Deliver structured economic presentations
- The competition combines theory with real-life application.

Q: 14. When will the competition end?

A: • The competition will conclude with the National Finals on 4 December 2026, following several rounds during the year.

Q: 15. When will the Child RBZ Governor and Deputies be announced?

A: • The winning team, including the Child Governor and Child Deputy Governors, will be officially announced during the National Finals event in December 2026.

Q: 16. Will RBZ cover travel and accommodation for finalists?

A: • Yes. RBZ will fully cover travel and accommodation costs for finalists, ensuring equal participation regardless of the school's location.

Q: 17. What happens before the finals?

A: • All finalists will attend a 2-day bootcamp, where they receive training, refine their presentations, and prepare for the final competition.

Q: 18. How can learners support their Governor and Deputy Governors?

A: • Learners can:

1. Assist with research, ideas, and practice sessions
2. Participate in mock presentations
3. Offer encouragement and school spirit

• Whilst only 3 learners represent the school, success is a team effort.

Q: 19. What sort of prizes should participants expect?

- A:**
- Consolation prizes will be given at the early stages of the competition to participants and winners at the various stages.
 - The finalists will receive valuable personal prizes including ICT gadgets.
 - Winners will receive prestigious titles and official roles throughout the duration of their one-year reign, scholarships, and other valuable personal prizes to be communicated in advance.
 - The winning school receives a monetary award for a development project

Q: 20. What happens after a team wins the 2026 SMPC?

- A:**
- Winning the 2026 SMPC is not just a one-day event. The Child Governor and Deputy Governors will serve during 2027, which becomes their official year of reign.
 - During this period, they will:
 1. Actively participate in policy conversations and engagements with the RBZ
 2. Represent young people in discussions on monetary policy and financial literacy
 3. Serve until the next Child Governor and Deputies are crowned in the following competition cycle
 - This means winners gain real exposure, leadership experience, and national recognition beyond the competition.