TAKING POSSESSION

A PROMISE TO THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE



DR DANIEL K SHUMBA

Founding President
United Democratic Alliance

Constitutional order. Economic empowerment. A dignified life for every Zimbabwean.

Seven pillars for national redemption, with practical commitments, transition priorities and public measures of progress.

OUR PROMISE TO ZIMBABWE

We, the United Democratic Alliance, seek a mandate to restore constitutional order, expand economic opportunity and rebuild services that allow people to live with dignity. Taking Possession means returning public power and national resources to their proper purpose: serving the people.

Our vision is a peaceful, functional and united Zimbabwe where citizens can afford life, institutions are accountable and the country's resources create shared opportunity. Our mission is to deliver that change through lawful, ethical and measurable government.

SEVEN PILLARS FOR NATIONAL REDEMPTION

1 **Constitutionalism and the rule of law** 04

2 **Economic sovereignty and digital innovation** 05

3 **Zero tolerance on corruption** 06

4 **Universal service delivery** 07

5 **Meritocracy and equity** 08

6 **Spiritual and moral restoration** 09

7 **National unity and international relations** 10

THE VALUES BEHIND THE PROGRAMME

Unity, constitutional democracy, accountability, fairness and a spirit of service guide every commitment in this manifesto.

UNITED DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE

FOUNDING PRESIDENT

DR DANIEL K SHUMBA

Dr Kuzozvirava Daniel Shumba

Military service, parliamentary experience and enterprise leadership



Dr Daniel K Shumba is the Founding President of the United Democratic Alliance, launched in March 2018. A former Member of Parliament for Masvingo Urban, he describes himself as an "entrepreneur politician" with experience in military service, parliamentary oversight, ICT and telecommunications.

MILITARY SERVICE AND EDUCATION

A former Lieutenant Colonel in the Zimbabwe Army, he trained at the Zimbabwe Military Academy. His service included the Parachute Group, Army Data Processing Unit and Air Defence in the Air Force of Zimbabwe, until 1990.

Educated in Zimbabwe, Zambia and the United Kingdom, he holds a BSc in Information Systems, an MBA in Business Process Re-engineering and a PhD in International Business Strategy.

PARLIAMENT AND BUSINESS

Elected MP for Masvingo Urban in 2013, he chaired the Mines and Energy Portfolio Committee and served on the Standing Rules and Orders Committee and the Justice and Legal Portfolio Committee.

His business roles include Founder and Chairman of Systems Technology, co-founder and shareholder of Econet Wireless Zimbabwe, Founder of TeleAccess Zimbabwe, and Founder and Chairman of Global Investment Partners.

"Our revolution is not just about politics, but about economic empowerment also."

PILLAR 01

CONSTITUTIONALISM AND THE RULE OF LAW

The Constitution must govern those who govern us.

We will defend constitutional order, protect fundamental rights and make public institutions answerable to the people. Political office must never place anyone above the law.

Protect an independent judiciary

Safeguard judicial independence and access to justice. Review legislation, including laws governing the reconstruction of state-indebted insolvent companies, against constitutional rights. Pursue the amendment or repeal of inconsistent provisions through lawful parliamentary processes.

Make elections credible and accessible

Strengthen the independence of electoral administration, transparent voter registration and safeguards against intimidation and fraud. Pursue the legal and administrative reforms needed for Zimbabweans in the diaspora to exercise voting rights.

Defend the direct presidential vote

The President must seek a direct mandate from the electorate on the principle of one person, one vote. We oppose constitutional changes that transfer the election of the President from the people to Parliament.

Bring power closer to communities

Strengthen Parliament's oversight role and devolve responsibilities and budgets to accountable local institutions. Regional autonomy must come with transparent decisions, public scrutiny and clear responsibility for service delivery.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **Independent institutions** → 2 **Credible elections** → 3 **Accountable local power**

How we will measure progress Report on legislative reform, electoral access, the independence of oversight institutions and the implementation of devolution.

PILLAR 02

ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY AND DIGITAL INNOVATION

Build an economy that protects value and expands opportunity.

We will connect economic reform to productive enterprise, modern infrastructure and useful digital services. Technology must support credible economic management and public accountability.

Test the national digital currency proposal

Develop the proposed national node for a distributed, tokenised digital currency through a published feasibility assessment, a lawful regulatory framework and a limited pilot. Test monetary stability, cybersecurity, privacy, consumer protection and local and international settlement before wider adoption.

Back enterprise and productive jobs

Develop a fintech regulatory sandbox and responsible digital access to capital for farmers and small businesses, including proposed tokenised-asset financing. Support the SME Accelerator, Youth Enterprise Fund and local mineral value addition, with transparent eligibility and oversight.

Make connectivity a national utility

Work towards universal, affordable broadband, stronger rural connections, secure local data centres and data sovereignty. Publish coverage, reliability and affordability milestones so that progress can be measured.

Make public services traceable

Digitise licensing, procurement, land records and customs, with accessible alternatives for people who are offline. Publish expenditure, contracts and audit information through open government dashboards to reduce opportunities for bribery and concealment.

Build practical digital skills

Integrate age-appropriate digital literacy, coding, AI and data science into education. Establish provincial technology hubs and innovation centres, and connect vocational training to industry, entrepreneurship and employment.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **Reliable connectivity** → 2 **Productive enterprise** → 3 **Traceable public services**

How we will measure progress Track broadband access and affordability, digital service use, enterprise participation, employment and local value addition. Publish pilot results before deciding on digital currency expansion.

PILLAR 03

ZERO TOLERANCE ON CORRUPTION

Public resources must serve the public.

We will tackle corruption through independent institutions, open information and consequences applied through the law. Accountability must reach political office, public administration and state-owned enterprises.

Secure independent enforcement

Build an effective, independent Anti-Corruption Commission with clear powers, a lawful route to prosecution and protection from political interference. Pursue domestic and international asset recovery under judicial oversight and due process.

Open contracts and declare interests

Require asset and interest disclosures, routine public audits and transparent procurement. Publish contract awards, expenditure and corrective actions so citizens can scrutinise how public money is used.

Protect those who expose wrongdoing

Strengthen whistleblower protection and safe channels for reporting abuse. Encourage independent civic monitoring of constitutional and ethical standards, drawing on the commitment to public advocacy reflected in Dr Shumba's founding role in The Advocacy Forum.

End patronage in public institutions

Make appointments to public bodies and state-owned enterprises merit-based and transparent. Require annual published audits, clear performance responsibilities and action on audit findings, irrespective of political affiliation.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **Open public contracts** → 2 **Protected whistleblowers** → 3 **Lawful asset recovery**

How we will measure progress Publish disclosure compliance, audit completion and follow-up, procurement transparency and the progress of corruption cases and asset recovery.

PILLAR 04

UNIVERSAL SERVICE DELIVERY

Every Zimbabwean should be able to live with dignity.

The Life Pillar turns national resources into services people can use. We will prioritise essential repairs, access to care, affordable learning and social protection that preserves dignity.

Restore essential services

Prioritise reliable clean water, electricity, functioning clinics and schools, and decent housing. Begin with urgent repairs and underserved communities, including rural areas. Publish service standards and repair priorities.

Make education useful and affordable

Increase public school support, pursue fair regulation of private school fees and modernise vocational training linked to industry. Develop the School Health and Nutrition Programme and Child Protection Hubs.

Expand access to healthcare

Work towards universal healthcare access, with stronger primary care, immunisation, nutrition and HIV/AIDS support. Improve access for people with disabilities and strengthen support for older people, widows, orphans and grandparents caring for children.

Build dignified social protection

Develop a costed basic income grant proposal for unemployed Zimbabweans over 18. Strengthen support for vulnerable households and low-income domestic workers, including maids and gardeners, with transparent eligibility, delivery and appeals.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **Reliable essential services** → 2 **Accessible care and learning** → 3 **Dignified social protection**

How we will measure progress Track water and electricity reliability, functioning facilities, primary care access, school participation, learning outcomes, nutrition and social protection coverage.

PILLAR 05

MERITOCRACY AND EQUITY

Ability and fairness must matter more than connections.

We will make fairness, equity and merit the standards for public opportunity. No citizen should be excluded because of tribe, region, political affiliation or lack of influential connections.

Recruit and promote on merit

Dismantle political patronage in the civil service. Use transparent selection criteria, documented appointments and accountable promotion processes so that public institutions are staffed by people able to do the work.

Make land reform transparent and productive

Pursue transparent land administration, fair treatment of affected owners and compensation where lawfully due. Apply productive-use requirements through clear rules and due process, so land supports food security and livelihoods rather than political favour.

Reject tribalism and political coercion

Reject tribal discrimination and the use of young people as instruments of violence or political militias. Public services, economic programmes and opportunities must be administered fairly and without partisan gatekeeping.

Open pathways into the economy

Link fair access to land, skills and enterprise support to productive work. Publish programme eligibility and decisions, and provide practical channels to challenge unfair treatment. Development must benefit Zimbabweans across communities.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **Merit-based appointments** → 2 **Fair access to opportunity** → 3 **Productive and lawful land use**

How we will measure progress Report on recruitment transparency, access to development programmes, complaints and remedies, and progress in productive land use and food security.

PILLAR 06

SPIRITUAL AND MORAL RESTORATION

Leadership must be grounded in humility, integrity and service.

Our call for God-fearing leadership is a call to serve honestly, respect human dignity and seek peace. Ethical leadership must be visible in conduct, decisions and treatment of every citizen.

Lead through service

Restore humility, dignity and respect to public life. Public office is a responsibility to serve the people, never an entitlement to privilege, intimidation or personal enrichment.

Promote peace and mutual respect

Encourage prayer for peace, constructive dialogue and respect across communities. Reject humiliation, hatred and violence in public life, and uphold the dignity and freedom of conscience of all Zimbabweans.

Build ethical public institutions

Develop moral renewal and public-service ethics programmes that connect values to daily responsibilities. Reinforce integrity, professional conduct and accountability in schools, public administration and leadership.

Judge values by conduct

Link ethical commitments to transparent decisions, fair treatment, responsible use of resources and willingness to correct mistakes. Leaders must accept scrutiny and be answerable for their actions.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **Humility in leadership** → 2 **Integrity in public service** → 3 **Peace and mutual respect**

How we will measure progress Report on ethics programmes, public-service complaints and remedies, and citizen feedback on fairness, dignity and trust.

PILLAR 07

NATIONAL UNITY, SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Heal the nation and rebuild trust at home and abroad.

We will pursue national healing, professional security institutions and constructive international engagement. Zimbabweans at home and in the diaspora must have a place in the country's future.

Confront historical injustice

Convene a National Truth and Reconciliation Forum to address historical injustices and political violence. Bring civil society, communities, the diaspora and veterans into a process focused on healing and national recovery.

Connect the diaspora to national life

Pursue diaspora voting rights, accessible remittances, responsible investment channels and returnee support. Assess digital settlement options through the proposed pilot, with transparent costs, safeguards and accessible alternatives.

Put security in service of citizens

Professionalise and depoliticise the military and police. Uphold constitutional duties, protect citizens and end abuse. Honour genuine war veterans through targeted healthcare and economic empowerment.

Re-engage through credible governance

Strengthen engagement with SADC, the African Union and international partners. Pursue the removal of sanctions through diplomacy supported by respect for the rule of law, property rights and demonstrable governance reforms.

PROGRESS PEOPLE SHOULD SEE

1 **National reconciliation** → 2 **Professional security** → 3 **Constructive global engagement**

How we will measure progress Track reconciliation progress, public trust, security-sector accountability, diaspora participation and progress in regional and international engagement.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

Begin the reforms, restore essential capacity and publish the plan.

These are transition priorities for the formation of a UDA government. Legislative reform, budget approvals, transparent costing and consultation will guide implementation.

1

Accountability and contract review

Begin reforms to secure independent anti-corruption enforcement. Review suspicious public contracts and seek lawful protective measures where evidence justifies action.

2

Economic stabilisation and a controlled pilot

Publish an economic stabilisation programme that protects essential social spending. Begin the feasibility, regulatory and technical work for a limited national digital currency pilot.

3

Urgent repairs to public services

Identify and prioritise critical water and electricity repairs and the reopening or restoration of essential clinics and schools. Publish the work programme and responsible institutions.

4

Enterprise and practical opportunity

Begin the SME Accelerator and Youth Enterprise Fund through transparent programme rules and responsible digital access. Connect support to productive activity and publish participation data.

5

Reconciliation and national recovery

Convene a National Reconciliation and Economic Recovery Forum with civil society, the diaspora and veterans. Establish channels for citizen participation and follow-up.

BEYOND THE TRANSITION

Publish a 100-day delivery plan, followed by three-year and five-year milestones for growth, jobs, digital adoption and service coverage. Report publicly every quarter.

FUND THE PLAN. REPORT THE RESULTS.

A promise becomes credible when its cost, funding and delivery responsibility are visible.

Reprioritised public spending

Cost programmes, protect essential services and publish budget choices. Phase implementation to match available resources.

Accountable investment partnerships

Use transparent public-private partnerships, responsible diaspora investment channels and targeted development partnerships, with clear obligations and public oversight.

Lawful asset recovery

Return recovered resources to public use through transparent processes. Do not treat uncertain recoveries as guaranteed funding for essential recurring services.

THE PUBLIC SCORECARD

AREA	WHAT WILL BE REPORTED
Governance	Open budgets, contract publication, audits and action on findings.
Jobs and production	Employment, youth unemployment, enterprise participation and mineral value addition.
Health and education	Primary care access, school participation, learning outcomes and nutrition.
Economic access	Connectivity, digital service use, diaspora investment and access to productive opportunity.
Unity and confidence	Public trust, reconciliation progress and citizen feedback.

Publish baselines and costed targets, assign responsible institutions and use quarterly public reports and independent performance scorecards to show progress, delays and corrective action.

A PROMISE TO THE PEOPLE

A MANDATE TO SERVE



We will listen. We will serve. We will be judged by results.

Citizens must be heard

Open citizen feedback platforms and hold public town halls. Make information understandable, and respond to concerns about services, spending and fair treatment.

Delivery must be local and accountable

Use Local Economic Councils with devolved budgets and oversight. Connect local priorities to national plans, with clear responsibilities for institutions and service providers.

Oversight must have substance

An independent judiciary, electoral administration, anti-corruption institutions and performance review must support constitutional and accountable government.

Under Dr Daniel K Shumba, the UDA asks for your mandate to build a functional, peaceful and united Zimbabwe. Taking Possession is our commitment to constitutional leadership, economic empowerment and a dignified life for all.

Nyika ndeyedu tese. The country belongs to us all.