

VOA Broadcasting to Zimbabwe

The Voice of America's *Studio 7* radio program broadcasts to Zimbabwe on Shortwave and AM frequencies in Shona and Ndebele. Since its launch in 2003, *Studio 7* has continued to be a vital source of independent information in a country where the ruling ZANU-PF party maintains a tight grip on domestic media – in particular radio and television – despite the licensing of several daily newspapers and radio stations, in recent years.

Quick Facts

Established: January 2003

Target Area: Zimbabwe (South Africa, Malawi,

Namibia, Mozambique, Botswana, and Zambia also

receive Studio 7).

Weekly Audience: 5.8% of the adult population

Broadcast Languages: Shona, Ndebele

Radio Programming: Studio 7 broadcasts live, 7 days

per week (local time 7-8pm).

Radio-on-TV: *LIVETALK* broadcasts daily from

1800 - 1900UTC, (local time, 8-

9pm.)

Programs and additional features available at:

www.voashona.com www.voandebele.com www.voazimbabwe.com

Facebook:

voashona voandebele VOALiveTalk

Twitter:

@studio7voa @voandebele

YouTube:

VOAZimbabwe

Podcasts:

Podcast available on My Yahoo, iTunes, and from voanews.com

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Programs and Features

Studio 7 broadcasts seven days a week at 7 p.m. Zimbabwe time, in Shona and Ndebele. Each language program runs for 30-minutes.

In addition, *Studio 7* airs *Livetalk*, a 60-minute call-in Radio-on-TV (simulcast) talk show, Monday through Friday. *Livetalk* is a critical platform of engagement that allows Zimbabweans in country and in the diaspora to air their views on developments taking place in Zimbabwe and elsewhere. In addition, the program aims to enlighten citizens on critical issues by engaging experts, non-state actors, politicians and government officials. *Livetalk* is accessible to everyone on the website, Youtube and Facebook. All *Studio 7* programs can be heard live or on-demand over the phone (Audio Now) for listeners in South Africa, the UK, and North America, and Soundcloud.

Studio 7 provides extensive and comprehensive coverage of political, economic and social developments in Zimbabwe. On both its radio and Radio-on-TV platforms, Studio 7 offers a variety of segments that focus on women and youth-related issues, religion and culture, the diaspora community, the rural population and health – including the HIV/AIDS epidemic – as well as education, the arts and sports.

Studio 7 draws upon a network of stringers inside Zimbabwe, South Africa and Botswana, to provide extensive coverage of developments on the ground, from major cities like Harare, Bulawayo, Gaborone and Johannesburg to smaller towns like Chinhoyi and Gwanda, as well as rural areas.

Studio 7 strives to be a credible and balanced source of news about Zimbabwe, reaching out to government officials, opposition parties as well as members of civil society groups and ordinary citizens.