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#### **Issue #76: 15 February 2023**

#### **Country News**

# Zimbabweans in South Africa sent bulk of remittances in 2022

Zimbabwe's diaspora community in South Africa and the United Kingdom accounted for the bulk of remittances last year, reaching US\$1.66 billion up from US\$1.43 billion in 2021, official figures show. International remittances, which comprise transfers by Zimbabweans in the diaspora and international organizations are a critical source of liquidity in Zimbabwe's economy with a positive impact on livelihoods across the country.

By <u>Bulawayo</u>

#### Mama Money and TNM partner for money transfers to Malawi

Mama Money, a fintech that offers cross-border money transfers and banking services has joined forces with TNM, the leading telecommunications and mobile money operator in Malawi.

By News Ghana

## **Phillippines: Rural banks can** accelerate financial inclusion in Southeast Asia

With more than 660 million people living in Southeast Asia, this culturally rich and diverse region is considered one of the fastest-growing regions in the world, with a projected gross domestic product of US\$4.7 trillion by 2025. As many experts have noted, the region's financial services industry is ripe for financial innovation and evolution.

By The Manila Times

#### **Industry and Digital**

# **European Parliament outlines plans** for an EU-wide digital wallet

Members of the European Parliament have outlined plans for an EU-wide digital identity framework providing EU citizens with digital access to key public services across EU borders.

**By Fintech Futures** 

#### Zeepay secures mobile money license in The Gambia

Zeepay, the African fintech leader and game-changer in the mobile money space, has once again demonstrated its commitment to expanding access to financial services across the continent. The company has received regulatory approval to bring its revolutionary mobile money services to The Gambia, making it the fourth country, alongside Ghana, Zambia, and Ivory Coast. **By Business Ghana** 

### Western Union CEO sees digital driving global remittance growth

"Remittance volume tends to track global GDP growth," Western Union's President and CEO Devin McGranahan said to investors, adding that global money flows would likely grow around 2 per cent in the new year, per economic projections from the World Bank. By **PYMNTS** 

#### TerrayPay, Beyon Money partner to improve remittance in Bahrain

Global payments infrastructure company TerraPay has teamed up with financial super app Beyon Money to help remitters in Bahrain. Through their partnership, the duo will enable a large addressable remitters market in Bahrain to transact across all key corridors through a swift, secure and affordable network for real-time payouts.

**By Fintech Global** 

#### **Remittance families and development**

# Can Africa's remittances be put to long-term work?

Remittances from the African diaspora amount to US\$95.6 billion a year. How can African governments harness these flows to support infrastructural development and other long-term projects? **By African Business** 

### Igniting SDG progress through digital financial inclusion

Digital financial services offer real hope to help the world get back on track from the severe negative impacts from COVID-19. By Better Than Cash Alliance

# **Remittances seen being main** economic engine for Central America amid United States-led investment drive

Remittances will continue to be the key driver for several Central American economies amid a major United States-led investment push, political analyst Eduardo Núñez told BNamericas. This week the White House announced that the Northern triangle - Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador - would receive US\$950 million in investments as part of efforts to curb migration to the United States.

**By <u>BNamericas</u>** 

#### **Crypto Corner**

# The role of cryptocurrency in advancing financial inclusion

Access to and use of financial services, known as financial inclusion, is crucial for economic growth and development. Unfortunately, a large portion of the population, particularly in developing nations, still lacks access to basic banking services. The World Bank estimates that 1.4 billion adults worldwide are without access to these services, which limits economic opportunities and perpetuates poverty.

#### By Cointelegraph

For more articles and updates on remittance markets and development, **visit the GFRID website** 

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