



ZIMBABWE BULLETIN



Highlights:

- *NO! to violence against women & girls in public transport*
- *A push for Gender Responsive Public Service*
- *Good Food Festival*
- *New Monetary policy*
- *COP 24 Mobilization*
- *Fighting Human- Wildlife Conflict.*

Our Vision: A just, equitable and sustainable Zimbabwe in which every person enjoys the right to a life of dignity, freedom from poverty and all forms of oppression. ***Happy Reading!***

Editor's Note

“Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” ~ Henry Ford

*Welcome to our by-monthly newsletter, which provides highlights of the work we are doing across Zimbabwe. For the September- October 2018 issue, we want our readers to see that there is every reason to showcase, celebrate and appreciate the good work communities, partners, stakeholders, social movements and ActionAiders are doing to address issues of poverty eradication, gender equality and social justice in Zimbabwe. We are doing this not because it is necessary but because, despite the difficult context of Zimbabwe, we are together managing to deliver and fulfil our social justice mission. We are currently implementing programmes under our current draft strategy for 2018-2028 entitled: **Citizen's Collective Actions for Social Justice.***

Editor: Takaitei Bote, Communications Focal Person, ActionAid Zimbabwe

Compiled by: Shamiso Saburi, Communications Intern, ActionAid Zimbabwe

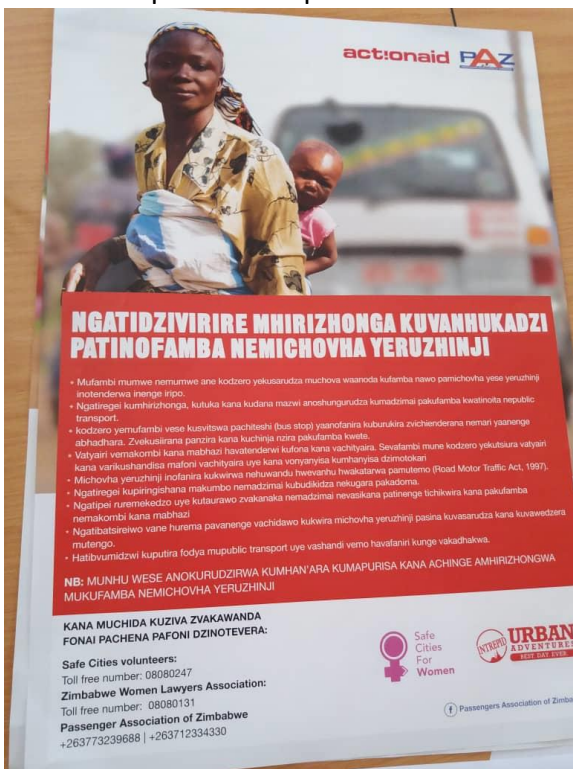
Priority 1: Empower women and girls living in poverty and exclusion to challenge the structural causes of violence and secure economic justice

NO! to violence against women in public transport #safecities



Our Safe Cities volunteers (above) conducted one on one and public meetings with residents in Chitungwiza, in Harare Metropolitan Province as part of the Safe Cities Campaign programme focusing on public transport. Part of the awareness raising includes information dissemination on passenger rights and laws that protect women and girls with regards to their safety in public transport. The volunteers distributed information such as where women and girls can report and who to get in touch with in the event of them experiencing violence in public transport. Some of the information provided included toll-free numbers

for the Passenger Association of Zimbabwe and the volunteers. The Safe Cities campaign in Zimbabwe is part of a global ActionAid campaign which aims to reduce violence against women and girls in the public.



One of the fliers distributed in Chitungwiza by volunteers.



Shamiso (left) and Lavenda Mashanda both student volunteers from ActionAid sampling t-shirts and fliers with safe cities messages.

Protecting girls to overcome sexual violence: A girl's determination in the face of adversity

By: Takaitei Bote, Communications Focal Person, ActionAid Zimbabwe

Thirteen-year-old Tapiwa (not real name) from Manicaland Province is a survivor of sexual violence who is currently being assisted at an ActionAid supported Safe House in partnership with the Family Aids Caring Trust (FACT). Despite a harrowing violation, she is determined to continue with life and build on her grades from primary school.

"I want to go to school to earn a living. I want to find my sisters and brothers who I last saw in 2015 and look after them as they are still very young, with the oldest being 19," said the defiant girl. No one from Tapiwa's family of 10 children went to secondary school.

Tapiwa is an orphan, who in 2017 came out with 7 units, an excellent performance at Grade 7 despite struggling to pay her school fees. She was the highest pupil at her school and wants to be a nurse given an opportunity to go to school. Both her parents are deceased. She has not been going to school since she finished Grade 7.....

Tapiwa is being supported by ActionAid and partners under a programme called Empowering Girls to Overcome Barriers to Education Programme. [READ MORE HERE:](#)



From left to right: Susan, Tadiwa and Tanaka from Nyanga, Manicaland Province, are some of the girls being assisted under the ActionAid Empowering Girls to Overcome Barriers to Education Programme. Tadiwa (13) is an orphan who stays with her mother and stepfather. Tadiwa is back in school after she had dropped out for a year since 2016. She was doing grade

5 when she stopped school and was supposed to be in grade 7 in 2018. After the break she had to start from grade 3 in a remedial class at a school in Nyanga soon after returning to school in 2017. Currently, she moved to another school where she is doing grade 6 supported under the Empowering Girls to Overcome the Barriers to Education Programme. Tadiwa is one of the 3000 in and out of school girls of 6-18 years, who are being assisted under the three-year Empowering Girls to Overcome Barriers to Education Programme.

Mainstreaming feminism in our social justice work: A Vision of shared power

By Shamiso Saburi, Communications Intern, ActionAid Zimbabwe

ActionAid staff and partners underwent a feminism training conducted by renowned Zimbabwe feminist Nancy Kachingwe in October 2018 focusing on mainstreaming feminism in our social justice work. The ActionAid feminism approach is guided by a vision of shared power. It seeks to change power relations in society and creates alternative models for how power can be managed in various spheres. Using power as the base to mainstream feminism in ActionAid work, leadership is first and foremost about power; holding power, exercising power, changing the distribution & relations of power. For most of us leadership means a few high-ranking position holders claiming the most decision-making power. Traditionally power holders are in the minority and the powerless make up the majority. ActionAid is pushing for a feminist leadership where the organisation is functioning with a greater consciousness about power, one's power and other people's power. It entails moving away from how leadership & power have "traditionally" intersected. That is why we are pushing for equality for males and females at household level, within communities, at workplaces and all sectors as we implement our social justice work.



Feminist Nancy Kachingwe during the feminism training in Rusape

The Power Analysis

Women are experiencing intersecting multiple forms of oppression and discrimination. These include religion, sexuality, sexual orientation, location, gender, disability, poverty and the effects of neoliberal policies. In addition, unequal power relations which exist among women and men lead to women and girls’ rights violations and exclusion. These women grapple with invisible, hidden and visible power. The invisible power which oppress women include patriarchy, societal beliefs, religious fundamentalism, heterosexual narrative, and capitalist culture. The hidden power includes traditional values, media, conservative narrative, health workers, religious institutions, prolife groups, and unequal power relations. The visible power includes; legislation, constitution as well as traditional and religious practices. The actors include family, traditional and religious leaders, political parties, world bank, policy makers, police and judiciary. In addition, some staff members of ActionAid, having been brought up by the same patriarchal society, bring their own norms and values which are not in sync with feminism, hence the need to deal with the internal systems and beliefs first before the external.

Priority 2: Ensure Increased Civic Participation and State Accountability for the Redistribution of Resources and Delivery of Quality, Gender-Responsive Public Services.

New monetary policy negatively affects people living in poverty

On the 5th of October 2018, ActionAid Zimbabwe in partnership with various Social and Economic Justice Civic Society Organizations organised a breakfast meeting in Harare to analyse the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe 2018 Mid-Year Monetary and Fiscal Policy Statement Impact on ordinary citizens. In line with the new policy measures and Section 36 of the Taxes Act all electronic and money transfer taxes shall be calculated at a rate of 2cents per every dollar transacted however applicable for all purchases above 10 dollars (Zimbabwe currency). This formed the biggest born of contention for ordinary citizens although other policy measures such as separation of foreign currency accounts and real time gross (RTG) accounts affected many Zimbabweans resulting in loss of their money.



Various opinions were raised: The monetary policy on increasing #taxies on electronic transfers is unconstitutional, section 20 and 21 of constitution violated said lawyer Rugare Kozanai during the meeting to analyse the 2018 midyear monetary policy and its impact ordinary citizens in Zimbabwe.

Participants at the breakfast meeting.

Clinton Musonza of The Labour Research Institute said monetary policy is promoting exporters however increasing government borrowing and at the same time impoverishing ordinary citizens.



Joy Mabenge, ActionAid Zimbabwe Country Director (left) and Chipiwa Chifamba, Programme and Policy Manager Governance (right) engaging in the dialogue at the meeting

Social and Economic Justice Civic Society Organizations Communique to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

One of the actions points for the Social and Economic Justice Civic Society Organisations breakfast meeting on the impact of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Monetary Policy on Ordinary Citizens, was a communique. The document, which will be handed over to the Ministry of Finance and Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, was published in national print media and other online platforms. [Read more here the demands made in the communique.](#)

A push for Gender Responsive Public Services

By Shamiso Saburi, Communications Intern, ActionAid Zimbabwe

ActionAid Zimbabwe hosted a three-day Gender Responsive Public Services (GRPS) training in Rusape, Makoni District, Manicaland Province from the 15th- 17th of October 2018 where staff and partners attended. The objective of the training was to assist ActionAid Local Rights Programme (LRP) partners and staff on pushing for GRPS programming as we work with various government institutions expected to provide public services. **GRPS** refers to the public services that identify the different gender identities of males and females (including sexual minority groups) and designed to counter social and economic narratives, attitudes, norms and beliefs that discriminate women and men based on their gender, sex, age, race and location among others. **Gender Responsiveness** is the ability to identify and recognize that females and males (and specific groups of women and persons with different gender identities and sexual orientation) have different practical and strategic needs and/or priorities and consciously attempt to deal with them when designing and delivering the required public services. Women and men do not need the same services. As Gender-responsive Service Providers, governments must examine the decisions they make about the services being designed and delivered and how this affects women and men. They must ask how and why women and men are accessing or not accessing the available services.

September-October 2018 Zimbabwe issue

The training in Rusape was facilitated by Ivan Atuyambe from the MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (TCDC) based in Arusha Tanzania. TCDC is supported by ActionAid Denmark. Participants were exposed to the following modules on public services:

- **Publicly funded:** Introducing the 4S's -The Share of budgets to key services, the Size of budgets overall, the Sensitivity of allocations and the Scrutiny of spending.
- **Publicly delivered and universal services:** Why public delivery? Effective public delivery, Accountability of Public Services, Decentralisation of services, Challenging privatisation and commercialisation of public services.
- **Gender equitable and inclusive:** Free from discrimination and sexism, safe for all, inclusive planning, decision and delivery processes for inclusive outcomes.
- **Quality indicators (The 4 As):** Services in line with human rights frameworks guiding provision of equitable quality services for all: Accessible, Available, Adaptable and Acceptable.
- **Gender Responsive Public Service Audit:** Publics services should be audited to promote transparency and accountability.

This training was essential as it advocated for Gender Responsive Public Services within our communities.



Pictures from the Gender Responsive Public Service Training in Rusape

Hope for Justice: African perspectives on the negotiations for a binding instrument on business and human rights

By Nyaradzo Mutohori, activist human rights lawyer, Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association

In every corner of Africa, the stories are similar. Death, hunger and rising poverty levels are the devastating outcomes induced by corporations in host communities. Contrary to the healthy, prosperous and wealthy society narratives often promised these communities by corporations, **exposure to toxic wastes, loss of livelihoods, restrictions on mobility and massive environmental degradation become their actual lived realities.** Active non-compliance and violation of environmental regulations by corporations on the one hand, coupled with wilful denial of the existence of these human rights violations by states on the other, ensure poor communities and especially women continue to bear the burden of the environmental cost of business over long time periods. [READ MORE:](#)

Zimbabwe Alternative Mining Indaba 2018



Our youths took stage at the Zimbabwe Alternative Mining Indaba in October 2018 zeroing in on issues to do with tax justice and illicit financial flows in the mining sector which are negatively impacting their gainful employment. They highlighted that responsible investors will mean gainful employment for youths.

Priority 3: Strengthen resilient livelihoods and secure climate justice

Fighting Human and Wildlife Conflict

By Shamiso Saburi, Communications Intern, ActionAid Zimbabwe

The Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA) hosted a workshop in September 2018 to determine possible societal and policy responses to human and wildlife conflict in the Zambezi Valley. ZELA is implementing this programme under a consortium called the Zambezi Valley Alliance (ZVA) where ActionAid is the lead organisation. The ZVA is implementing resilience building programmes in Mbire, Nyaminyami, and Binga Districts situated in the Zambezi Valley under the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF).

The goal of the workshop was to achieve increased capacities of communities to protect their development gains and achieve improved well-being and livelihoods in the face of shocks and stresses such as human and wildlife conflict. The objective of the workshop was to provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss the draft policy framework on human wildlife -conflicts to enhance awareness, promote advocacy and influence policy making and legislative reforms.

The Zambezi Valley is one of the areas that has been hit by human and wildlife conflict. An important aspect of this conflict is the hostile confrontation and contestation between wildlife and human populations. In the Zambezi Valley, horticultural activities have been subjected to attacks and endangerment by wild animals where such activities were carried out in proximity to wildlife zones, or in former wildlife frontiers. The consequence of such human wildlife conflicts results in negative effects to both human and wildlife, and they include fear, injury/death to human, livestock predation and reduced population of animals. To break this cycle, there is a need to protect rural livelihoods, reduce their vulnerability, counter-balance losses with benefits and foster community-based conservation of wildlife. Both people and wildlife suffer tangible consequences and the different stakeholders involved should commit themselves to tackle and resolve human –wildlife conflicts for the benefit of both humans and wildlife.

The ZRBF is implemented with support from the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Climate and Rural Resettlement, European Union, United Kingdom’s Department for International Development, the Swedish Government the United Nations Development Programme.



Participants during the human and wildlife conflict workshop

Promoting resilience building in livestock management

In September 2018, ActionAid Zimbabwe facilitated nine women farmers from Makoni District, in Manicaland Province to attend a goat management training at a farm in Mashonaland East Province, as we continue supporting our farmers to improve the quality of their breeds which will increase their earnings.

The Farm called Zvikomborero, specialises in Boer goat breeding. It produces better breeds than the Mashona type which the farmers supported by ActionAid have been producing over the years. Currently the Mashona goat breeds are selling for between \$35 and \$50 while the Boer goat is fetching between \$100 and \$300.

The goat management training is being implemented under the Makoni District Resilience Project reaching out to 200 households, the bulk of whom are women- led households in Makoni.



Ellen Mukonde Hwedza LRP Assistant working in Nyazura and Makoni (far left) and the women farmers from Makoni vaccinating goats during the Goat management training at Zikomborero Farm.

The Good Food Festival



ActionAid Zimbabwe on the 20th of October 2018, participated at a food exhibition entitled “Good Food Festival” at Botanical Gardens in Harare. It was a hive of activity at the festival as our farmers from Nkayi supported by the Health Education and Food Organisation (HEFO), our partner, celebrated Zimbabwe's traditional & organic food & seed as we link them to viable markets.

24th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 24) Mobilization

From the 3rd to the 7th of September 2018, ActionAid Zimbabwe participated in a social media campaign as part of the global ActionAid initiative aimed at advocating for climate justice. This was done as ActionAid teams were at a meeting in Bangkok, Thailand discussing the effects of climate change globally. Climate change has affected vulnerable developing countries such as Zimbabwe and pushing for climate justice in preparation for the COP 24 in December 2018 could not have come at a better time.



Saymore Kadire from Nyanga, an Activista Zimbabwe member from Nyanga showing how climate change has affected his community.

Resilience building programme brings hope to women

By Faith Chivinge, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Batsiranai Programme

ActionAid Zimbabwe in partnership with Batsiranai Programme, a Community Based Organisation has supported nutritional gardens initiatives aimed at improving their food and nutrition security and enhance livelihoods. The bulk of the people assisted are women [Read more:](#)



Constance Dakarai in her garden

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