



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



W/O 3/93  
Campaigners for Human Rights



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## **About ZimRights**

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) is an indigenous non-profit, non-governmental organisation registered under the Private Voluntary Organisation Act. It was formed in 1992 and registered in 1993 for the sole purpose of insuring that Zimbabweans are ensured of their rights as citizens and are equipped and empowered with the knowledge to defend their rights.

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# ABOUT ZIMRIGHTS

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## OUR VISION

We envision ourselves leading in developing and sustaining a culture of Human Rights in Zimbabwe.

## MISSION STATEMENT

We pursue our vision through the use of a grassroots based approach in promoting, protecting and defending Human Rights in Zimbabwe through education, information, legal aid and litigation, counselling, lobbying, advocacy and litigation.

## OUR CORE VALUES

In the execution of our mandate, we are guided by the following core values:

- Respect for human dignity.
- Sensitivity for gender and marginalised groups.
- Transparency and accountability.
- Impartiality and team work.
- Non alignment to political parties.
- Confidentiality and integrity.
- Commitment and dedication.



## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON

2020 was a year defined by turbulence and change. The COVID-19 pandemic brought a new normal that we were all experiencing for the first time. While others completely stopped programming due to the government-imposed lockdowns, ZimRights rose to the occasion, finding new ways of continuing to promote, protect and defend human rights.

The Pandemic that hit the country in March 2020, gave the police, the army and government new forms of control as lockdowns became necessary as a public health requisite, putting human rights defenders at a greater risk.

The manipulation of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in ordinary citizens suffering while rights were violated with impunity. Many people were arrested, detained in prisons where the risk of contracting COVID-19 was even greater, tortured and abducted by state actors. Extra-judicial killings rocked the year.

The disruption of livelihoods, the malfunctioning of the health delivery system the job losses all reflected a country that had no disaster preparedness plan.

To force a human rights-based approach response to the pandemic, ZimRights set in motion, a three-pillar COVID-19 response strategy. The three pillar COVID-19 response strategy included Human Rights Monitoring, Humanitarian Response and the Policy Advocacy.

It was through the timely response mechanisms that ZimRights, through its membership and secretariat managed to soldier on and advocated for a rights-



**Takesure Musiiwa**  
Zimrights Chairperson

based response to the pandemic. ZimRights strengthened its community human rights champions to ensure protectors in every corner of the country.

Believing that the Constitution is sacrosanct, ZimRights stood firm in the defense of the constitution. ZimRights also ran a number of campaigns promoting peace in the communities and shared knowledge with communities on devolution, which we believe will increase popular participation in decision making and establish a sound financial base for each provincial, metropolitan council and local authorities.

ZimRights also partnered with health institutions and prisons in the fight against COVID-19 giving support of the much-needed PPEs.

We thank all the stakeholders including ZimRights membership that made 2020 possible. The new director, Dzikamai Bere who took the reins in 2020 for steering the ship during a difficult year, the secretariat, funding partners, fellow Civil Society Organisations and government who made it all possible. We look forward to emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic as a better people and a fulfilling 2021.

## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

### Impact of COVID-19 on Human Rights

The year 2020 was a disastrous year for human rights. It was characterized by the prevalence of the COVID-19 pandemic which ravished the lives of nations the world over. In an attempt to contain the accelerated spread of the pandemic, countries adopted lockdown restrictions resulting in the closing of borders and restricting of movements even within countries. Citizens were constrained to the four walls of their homes, and interaction with co-workers, family and friends was banned for certain periods of time. The COVID-19 restrictions gravely impacted on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural constructs of nations, deterring individuals to fully enjoy their human rights.

The surge of the COVID-19 pandemic gave room for government to intensify repressive measures. This disproportionately affected vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe, stifling fundamental human rights and freedoms including amongst others; movement, expression, assembly, right to health, food, water and the right to education. Throughout the year, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association's (ZimRights) human rights monitoring mechanisms showed that over 800 people suffered assault at the hands of the state or state agents. In addition, the arbitrary arrests of journalists, student activists and human rights defenders, prolonged detention and bail determination adversely violated citizens' civil and political rights. The lengthy confinement of citizens in their homes increased the rise of gender-based violence cases. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported in its 2020 Zimbabwe Situation Report that gender-based violence cases reported through the National Gender



**Dzikamai Bere**  
ZimRights National Director

Based Violence Hotline increased by a 175 per cent compared to 2019.

On the social and economic spectrum, government made orders of destructing informal market stalls in certain parts of the country, which had a huge impact on the welfare of citizens, where a majority of Zimbabweans rely on the informal sector to sustain their livelihoods. Moreover, the right to health was heavily affected as the pandemic further crippled the health sector of the country which was already failing to function effectively prior to the advent of COVID-19. The right to education was immensely disrupted with schools closing for long periods, children had to partake in online lessons, this disproportionately affected the majority of children enrolled in government schools and schools in rural areas who failed to participate in online schooling. Therefore, the COVID-19 crisis intensified disdain amongst the vulnerable and marginalised groups who were caught up between the pandemic and the measures imposed by the Government.

In light of all these hardships, ZimRights has documented community responses to COVID-19 measures and has provided leadership in putting human rights at the center of COVID-19 responses. The organization delivered urgent humanitarian

support to 24 centres and institutions, including 13 rural clinics, 7 prisons, 14 quarantine centres hence, reaching out to over 17 000 people in need of humanitarian assistance. Advocacy initiatives inclusive of the publication of; 2 policy briefs on human rights and COVID-19, the Rights in Crisis Report and Their Voices Matter Series of Reports on Community Response to COVID-19 pandemic, clearly outlined the dire effects of the virus on the realization of right of citizens.

In spite of interference of lockdown measures to programming, ZimRights progressively adopted the “new normal” conducting activities virtually further, capacitating ZimRights membership to embrace digital activism. 11 Whatsapp Groups were formed in all of the 11 ZimRights Local Chapters, enabling citizens to dialogue on various human rights issues, engaging ZimRights leaders to mobilise citizens and participate in important processes. About 2200 people participated on these Whatsapp platforms, 23 initiatives emerged and 16000 people benefited from the actions that emerged from the groups. In 2020, ZimRights launched the Youth Zone. A platform created to rope in the young people to be active participants in democratic processes contributing,

effectively in issues that affect them. Inspired by the words of one prominent author Alfie Kohn, “*Students should not only be trained to live in a democracy when they grow up; they should have the chance to live in one today,*” ZimRights is working towards building the future champions that will bring social change.

Throughout the year ZimRights held its head high, embracing wise words stated in the Wisdom Project by David Allan, editorial director of CNN Features who reiterated a historic quotation that “*Keep calm and carry on.*” “*The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.*” “*Don’t worry, be happy.*” ZimRights 2020 strategy placed ZimRights members as primary beneficiaries and this was widely received and accepted by ZimRights structures and leadership. ZimRights successfully implemented 7 projects without a glitch, owing to the harmonised effort proffered by our members and the funding partners.

We extend a hearty thank you to the Management Committee for supporting the transition and our young and vibrant secretariat for staying on course. We express hope and diligence for the future as we craft our new strategy which will be member-centric.



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political, economic, social and  
cultural constructs of nations,  
detering individuals to fully  
enjoy their human rights.**

# MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



**THEMBA CHIVEYA**

Management Committee  
Chairperson



**TAKESURE MUSIIWA**

National Chairperson



**JANET KANAVETE**

National Treasurer



**LYDIA MAPHOSA**

Management Committee  
Member



**LIBERTY NYADOME**

Management Committee  
Member



**SITHENGISIWE KALENGE**

Management Committee  
Member

## NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS



**THEMBA CHIVEYA**

Management Committee  
Chairperson



**TAKESURE MUSIIWA**

National Chairperson



**JANET KANAVETE**

National Treasurer



**LYDIA MAPHOSA**

Management Committee  
Member



**SARAH NJANJI**

National Council Member



**NYADZISAI MUTYANDAEDZA**

National Council Member



**MILDRED MUZANECHITA**

National Council Member



**ARMSTRONG MAGAVHANI**

National Council Member



**ISHMAEL MKANDLA**

National Council Member



**SITHENGISIWE KALENGE**

National Council Member



**JOEL HITA**

Masvingo Chairperson



**ISAAC CHABONYONGA**

Mashonaland West  
Chairperson

## NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS



**LIBERTY NYADOME**

Mashonaland East  
Chairperson



**KELVIN NZIMBA**

Mashonaland Central  
Chairperson



**PANGANAI MURIME**

Manicaland Chairperson



**AMIDU ALI**

Chitungwiza Chairperson



**LAGOS MAPHOSA**

Matebeleland South  
Chairperson



**JABULANI SIBANDA**

Matebeleland North  
Chairperson



**TAKAWIRA MASHINGAIDZE**

Harare Chairperson



**MUSA MOYO**

Bulawayo Chairperson



**MARTIN BONGOZOZO**

Midlands Chairperson



**DZIKAMAI BERE**

National Director

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Association extends its appreciation to partners who worked tirelessly to safeguard and promote human rights. ZimRights would also like to thank its development partners and funders who made the work of ZimRights in 2020 possible.

ZimRights also salutes various government departments and Independent Commissions whose cooperation and alliance made ZimRights succeed in achieving its set out objectives for the year. The support from ZimRights members and leadership was tremendous.





## OVERVIEW OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE

Despite President Emmerson Mnangagwa's continued proclamations of Zimbabwe being open for business, the Zimbabwe human rights situation in 2020 continued to decline with weaponization of COVID-19 against citizens.

It should be noted that blatant human rights violations and corruption depict Zimbabwe as a bad investment destination hence cannot therefore be said to be open for business. Zimbabwe economy remained numbed pushing vulnerable people into deeper poverty that was worsened by the COVID -19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the state of public hospitals in Zimbabwe that government has not been adequately financing. Throughout the year the right to health was compromised for the less privileged who use public hospitals. Frontline workers did not have adequate Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) that led to a protracted labour dispute with the Health Services Board. When COVID-19 hit, public health institutions were without health personnel, without adequate infrastructure, without machinery and without drugs.

While other countries like Europe and America were already battling the COVID-19 pandemic when we turned into the new year, Zimbabwe recorded its first COVID-19 case on 20 March and the first death on March 23 and thereafter cases and deaths steadily increased. As a public health requisite, President Emmerson Mnangagwa declared the first national lockdown from 30 March without provision of any social safety nets for millions of Zimbabweans who survived on buying and selling.

After the declaration of the lockdown, weaponization of COVID-19 resulted in thousands of arbitrary arrests and detentions. The Government locked the nation without providing social safety nets for the vulnerable which resulted in some people breaking the regulations in order to put food on the table as their sources of livelihoods had been disrupted. The right to life was under threat both from the pandemic and hunger.

While Zimbabwe had always been marred with corrupt public sector officials, the looting of the COVID-19 aid and resources in 2020 led to online campaigns against corruption that culminated in the #July 31 protests. While the convener Jacob Ngarivhume and Journalist Hopewell Chin'ono were arrested on 20 July 2020 accused of inciting violence, days before the protests against alleged state corruption and the deteriorating economy on the eve of planned demonstrations government deployed soldiers and police to clear the streets in all major cities. On the days, there were scattered protests across the country that resulted in citizens who exercised their right to protest arrested.

From July to December 2020, ZimRights alone documented 102 arrests of human rights defenders and political activists on trumped up charges of violating COVID-19 regulations.



**ZimRights documented**  
**102** arrests of human rights defenders and political activists on trumped up charges of violating COVID-19 regulations.

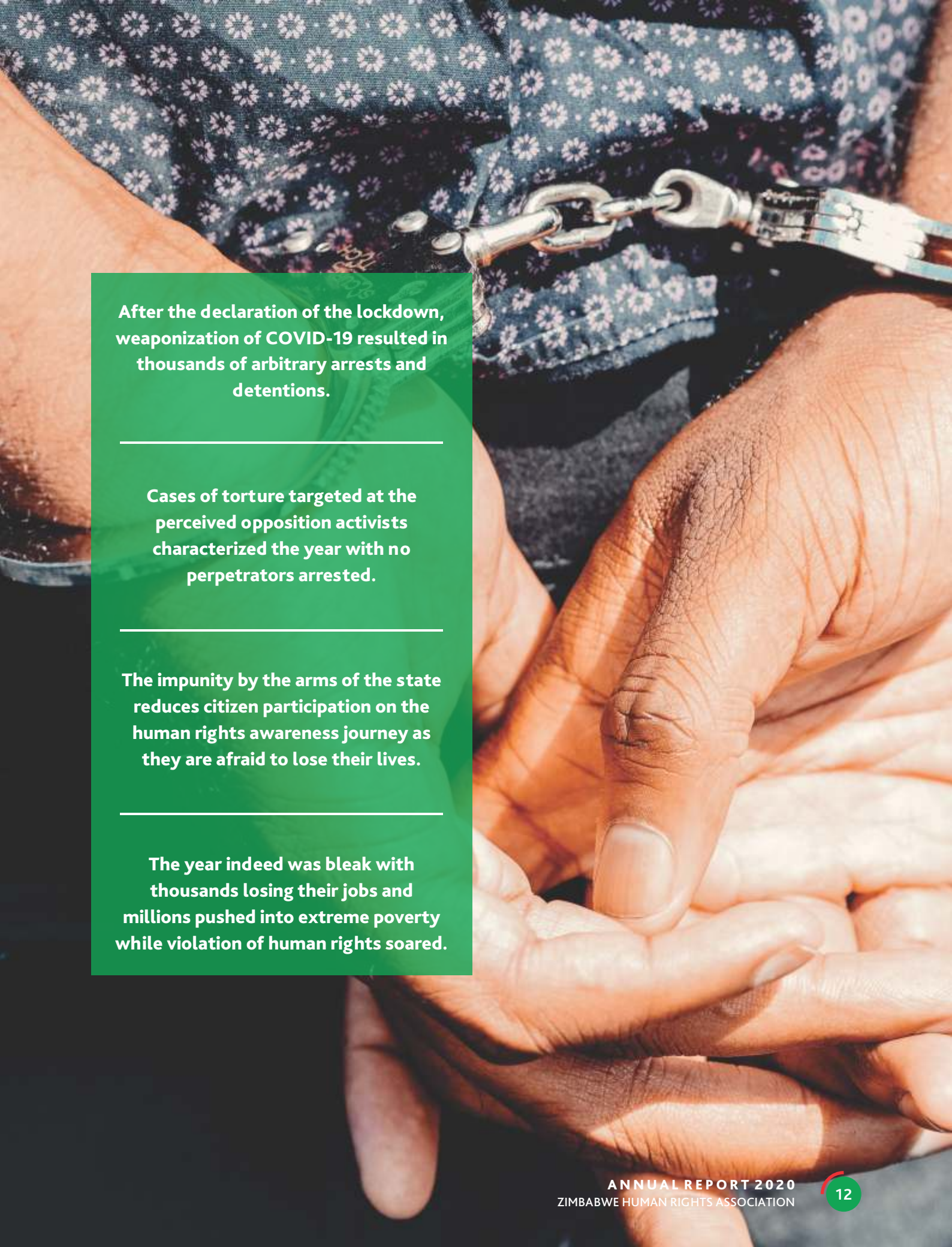
ZimRights recorded 8 abductions and enforced disappearances which all occurred in the last half of the year and 7 cases of extra judicial killings. Cases of torture targeted at the perceived opposition activists characterized the year with no perpetrators arrested. Even when a Journalism student Tapiwa Muchehiwa was abducted and tortured and the car used was traced to Impala car rentals, no arrests have been made. The impunity by the arms of the state reduces citizen participation on the human rights awareness journey as they are afraid to lose their lives.

Citizens that exercised their rights to demonstrate, petition and freedom of expression were mostly denied bail at the magistrates courts for those perceived to be opposing the government, pre-trial incarcerations, abductions and torture. Corruption exacerbated vulnerabilities among the poor as the wealthy used their financial muscles to evade the lockdown regulations.

Parliament was "*stripped off*" of its law-making role, with the country governed mostly by statutory instruments.

The year indeed was bleak with thousands losing their jobs and millions pushed into extreme poverty while violation of human rights soared.





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## MEMBERSHIP

ZimRights members are the lifeblood of the association and since 1992, they have been the bedrock on which ZimRights mandate has been anchored. In 2020, ZimRights went a notch higher in buttressing the importance of its membership. It adopted a Membership Engagement Strategy that seeks to guide the organisation's interaction and engagement with its membership, ensuring that the programming was more member-centric and facilitating seamless communication between the secretariat and the members.



The major highlight of this strategy was the establishment of a Membership Coordination Office tasked with coordinating membership activities and issues.



The membership office also spearheaded the **#BeTheChampion4RightsCampaign** whose activities are under the Programs updates.



## PROGRAMS UPDATES

### INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

ZimRights in partnership with the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) condemned gross human rights violations by police including extra-judicial killings, torture and abductions. ZimRights and The International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) denounced the escalation of gross human rights abuses by the state. We called for the government to conduct investigations concerning police brutality on unarmed Zimbabwean citizens and for the perpetrators to be held to account.

ZimRights also participated in the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. Content was posted on social media platforms to encourage an end to gender-based violence.



## LOCAL ADVOCACY

In its local advocacy efforts, ZimRights was alert on emerging human rights violations in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic that included but not limited to, arbitrary arrests, unnecessary detention at a time prisons were not adequately prepared to prevent infections and pre-trial incarcerations.

Due to the increased human rights violations, exacerbated by the lack of a human rights centered approach to enforcement of the COVID-19 regulations, ZimRights documented and engaged policy makers as a way of minimizing the violations.

The ZimRights police reports against Zanu PF's spokesperson Patrick Chinamasa for inciting violence when he labeled civil society as evil and also the letter to parliament raising the issue of politicization of food aid by Farai Musikavanhu, Member of Parliament for Chiredzi West, were some of the notable local advocacy cases. ZimRights members through the Masvingo Provincial Chairperson Mr J. Hita submitted a petition to the Clerk of Parliament and after the petition complaints against politicisation of food aid stopped in this constituency.

ZimRights also hosted a constitutional summit aimed at educating youth on the constitution as part of its local advocacy on Constitutionalism.

The Hashtag **Hands-Off the People's Constitution** campaign created a vibrant community of Human Rights Defenders from our grassroots members who stood up in defense of the Constitution.

The Hashtag **Be the Champion4Rights** campaign energized especially the youths. The campaign aimed at inspiring ordinary people, especially young people, to take an active interest in human rights. In a series of online and offline messages and dialogue platforms, the Campaign opened an inter-generational conversation on human rights as an everyday struggle for all.

The Right to Peace campaign continued to create communities that realise that peace is the golden ticket to development and better communities. The campaign has brought unity, positive thinking and collaboration leading to development. ZimRights communities can now resolve conflict without violence.



## GRASSROOTS ACTIVITIES

Despite the novel coronavirus, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association held various grassroots activities across the country. Activities were either physical where there was low risk for the spread of Covid-19 and virtual. The following activities were held across the country:



### I. MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION

#### Membership Audit and Review of Structures

32 ZimRights Structures were mapped and audited across 9 of the 11 ZimRights Provinces. The review process, rejuvenated the structures and rekindled an interest in renewing ZimRights membership. This helped in designing community initiatives and capacity building programmes. This activity also paved way for profiling and reviewing ZimRights structures including community human rights monitors as well as providing a scientifically-sound analysis of the ZimRights membership, with disaggregated figures. File Maker Pro software was purchased and installed. The database software enabled the disaggregation of data according to specifications. The database software integrated with WhatsApp, email and SMS enabled easy access and communication with membership.

#### Membership Recruitment Drive

By 31 December 2020, **3949 new members** had been recruited, that is 2113 females and 1836 males.

# 31%

of these are young people below the age of 35. This was despite the severe restrictions on movement and gatherings imposed during the lockdown which began in March 2020.

**Figure 1: New ZimRights Members**

Females 2113

Males 1836

#### National Council Meeting - Strategy Review and Induction Incorporating - M and E Functions of National Council

One meeting was held from the 9th to the 12th of June 2020. The meeting allowed the council to reflect on the leadership transition, share their vision with the new leadership, receive the new Director's strategy and incorporate this into the running strategic plan. The transition plan was adopted and resolutions made to establish the Membership Coordination Office for the coordination of all membership activities.

#### Capacity Building in Community Leadership, Activism and Organising

A Capacity Building workshop was held on the 15th of September, under the theme *"Pro-Tomorrow - building a movement for the future"*.

Due to the threat of the COVID-19 disease and subsequent restrictions on movement, the workshop was restricted to 10 of the 11 ZimRights Provincial Chairpersons, the National and Vice Chairperson. The capacity development workshop managed to; train ZimRights' provincial structures and equip them with tools to self-organise and respond to human rights violations, and to capacitate ZimRights provincials with skills to recruit and retain members. A Membership Application and Admission procedure was adopted for use.

The knowledge and skills acquired by the ZimRights leadership at this cascaded to the regional council members, the local chapter committees as well as the general ZimRights membership in approximately 200 locations nationwide.

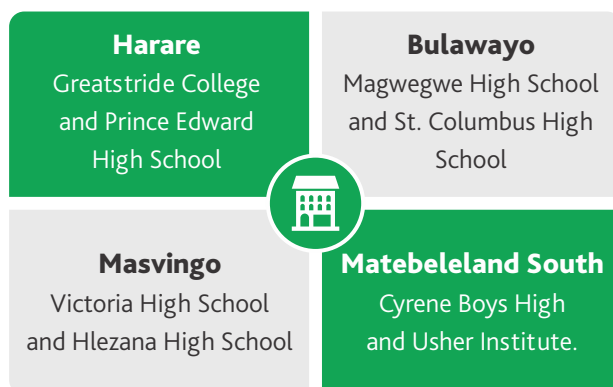
### **Support knowledge exchange for a worker's union in a realising labour, social and economic rights**

ZimRights, engaged a facilitator, Oren Fuchs, from the Mining Workers Investment Company in South Africa (MIC) to share the MIC's experiences. The MIC, regarded as a successful example of what workers union can do, is a 100% black owned broad-based investment holding company that was established by the Mineworkers Investment to provide ongoing funding for the Trust's social and educational projects. 17 leaders of the sugar milling union equipped with knowledge; an action plan was developed. An analysis of the challenges faced by members of the two unions was done and an action plan was developed.

### **Establishment of Youth Zone Through Constitution Clubs**

The youth zone was established through 8 high school constitution clubs from Harare, Bulawayo, Masvingo and Matebeleland South Provinces.

A total of 142 (71 girls and 71 Boys) High School youth volunteered and were incorporated into the youth clubs. This was despite a slow COVID-19 induced start the following constitution clubs were formed and are active;



As a result,

# 132

learners were mobilised and there are 70 males and 62 females.

# 60%

of these learners did not know what a constitution was and

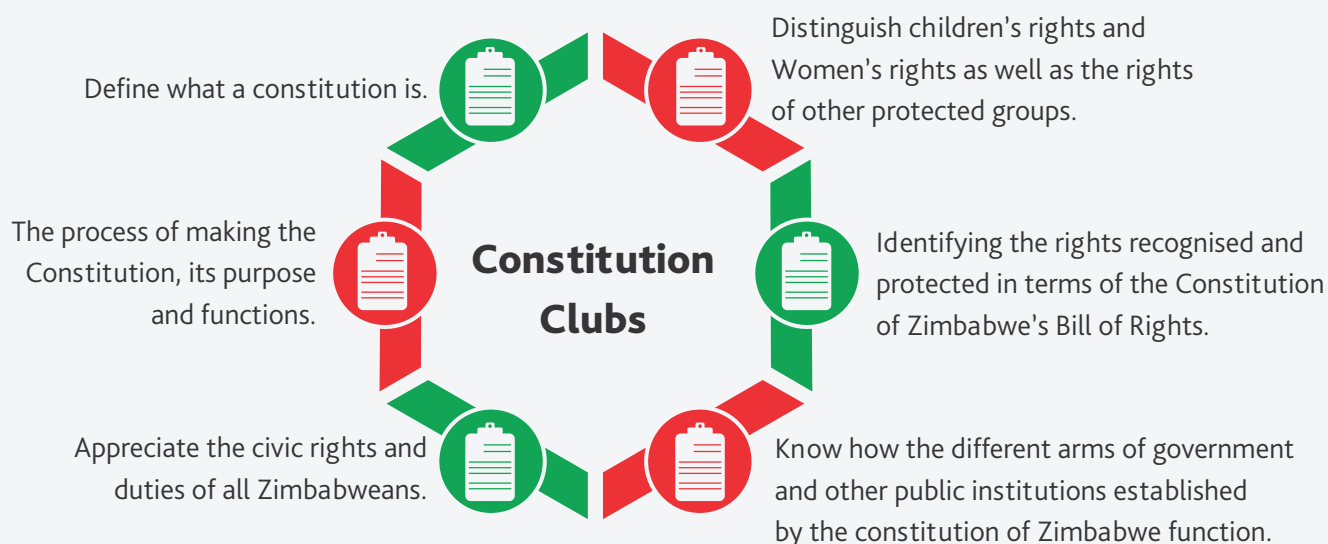
# 75%

of them had not seen or held a copy of the constitution. However,

# 80%

of these learners knew one or more rights as contained in the bill of rights.

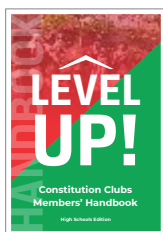
## Through the constitution clubs, the learners are now able to:



### Constitution Summit

ZimRights hosted the inaugural Constitution Summit on the 1st of December 2020 wherein 45 learners participated. The Constitution Summit was addressed by leading experts and practitioners who included former High Court Judge Justice Moses Chinhengo, Kent Law School Professor Dr. Alex Magaisa and the Chief Registrar of the Superior Courts of Zimbabwe Ms. Anitah Tshuma.

Justice Chinhengo also launched the new publication by ZimRights, *'Level Up: A Handbook for Constitution Clubs in Zimbabwe.'* The book is a guide for schools that want to launch Constitution Clubs and for club leaders who want to incorporate constitution education in their programmes.



## ii. RIGHT TO PEACE CAMPAIGN

### Grassroots Community Meetings on Devolution

Many people are excluded from participating in the country's social, economic and political affairs because of a highly centralised political and governance system. ZimRights therefore convened 7 community meetings on devolution in Masvingo and Matabeleland Provinces. (3) of these meetings were conducted virtually due to the lockdown restrictions.

The meetings were attended by

**317**

participants in both Bulawayo and Masvingo.



The meetings were facilitated by experts in constitutionalism and devolution. During the meetings knowledge was imparted on devolution with different countries like Kenya, South Africa, Britain, and America used as cases studies. The meetings equipped the communities in the two provinces with devolution knowledge and they will be able to contribute to the discourse should devolution conversations start in the country.

ZimRights believes that Devolution is the single most comprehensive door to a governance system of inclusion, participation, and empowerment.

### High Level Devolution Dialogues

Having had appreciated the importance of devolution in shaping peace, community development, and economic growth, ZimRights invited experts from countries where devolution has been implemented. The dialogues done in partnership with In Conversation with Trevor functioned as platforms for sharing experiences, documenting lessons learned and exchange of ideas with societies that have reaped the benefits of devolution to share lessons with Zimbabwe. In the devolution series, experts from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Kenya, and Switzerland unpacked the devolution concept in practice and shared insights on what this may mean for Zimbabwe. Tim Murithi from South Africa spoke on the Peace Potential of devolution. Murithi highlighted that devolution enhances prospects of peace but emphasized the need for participation by the public. Mr Patrick Karanja, from Kenya provided insights on the potential of devolution to open up political space and decentralisation resulting in an inclusive economy whereby all citizens participate. Devolution enhances citizen participation in governance and this was brought out by Nuiclin Jager, Ambassador of Switzerland to Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia. Jager said once citizen feel that power lies

**Devolution presents an opportunity for the country to create a more equitable society where local communities control the resources and structures.**



Participants during the Gutu Devolution meeting



Participants during Masvingo Devolution Meeting



with them, they easily participate in the state's legislative and political Affairs both at local and federal government. The dialogues that were watched by +/- 5000 ZimRights members and ordinary citizens helped highlight the potential of devolution in resolving our current problems.

### **Devolution Public Hearing Mobilization**

ZimRights members that had been equipped with constitutionalism and devolution knowledge participated in the Parliament Public Hearings on Constitutional Amendment Bill number 2.

A total of

# 170

ZimRights members were mobilized to participate in 4 Public Hearings conducted in Masvingo, Bulawayo, Gwanda and Plumtree.

ZimRights produced a fact sheet on the proposed constitutional amendments before the hearings to enhance community knowledge. The fact sheet shared to government and other civil society organisations stated the ZimRights position on the amendment bill number 2 to the constitution and explained the amendment bill implications. It was distributed through online platform and handouts.

These fact sheets were also translated in two local languages Shona and Ndebele which was essential to the long-term objective of ZimRights to conscientize communities to participate in national processes with relevant knowledge.



Gwanda Constitutional Amendment  
Bill Number 2 Public Hearing



Masvingo Constitutional Amendment  
Bill Number 2 Public Hearing

### Interactive Meetings with Constitutional Clubs on Amendment Bill Number 2

Four interactive constitutional clubs meetings with high schools were successfully conducted in Bulawayo, Masvingo and Mat-South. The meetings fostered a sense of patriotism and civic responsibility among learners and ZimRights supported government efforts to promote constitutional literacy in schools and universities.

### Commissioners of Integrity Campaign

ZimRights collected expectation views on the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commissioners citizens we want in different areas such as Matabeleland south, Harare and Mashonaland Central. The views were documented as a video recording and posted on ZimRights social media pages. It allowed policy makers, government and the chosen commissioners to know what communities expect of them.

### Community Peace Building Meetings

Zimbabwe Human Rights Association conducted a total of five (5) community peace meetings two (2) were held in Matabeleland and three (3) in Masvingo Provinces.

#### The Peace Committees objectives were:

- the early detection of areas of potential conflicts and disputes, and to take appropriate preventive measures.
- to promote peace in communities.
- to ensure communities reconcile and mediate disputes among themselves and iv) recommend to other institutions such as the NPRC and the
- ZHRC to ensure that assistance, including documentation, is rendered to persons affected by conflicts or other circumstances.

123 female and 192 male attended the peace building meetings. The peace committees managed to resolve a total of six (6) cases, three (3) were dealt with in Masvingo and three (3) in the Matabeleland South Province. The peace committees in the two provinces made use of the **DO NO HARM** concept to mitigate all the six (6) incidences.



Gwanda rural: Sofa community peace meeting in progress



Majange community peacebuilding meeting in progress Masvingo

### iii. COMMUNITY JUSTICE

#### Hands-off the Peoples' Constitution Campaign

Understanding constitutionalism is critical to the enhancement of the culture of constitutionalism and to the promotion and protecting of human rights in Zimbabwe. Cognizant of the need to appreciate constitutionalism and enable communities to defend the constitution and creating a human rights conscious society,<sup>11</sup> virtual understanding constitutionalism community engagements were conducted in all the 11 ZimRights Provincial structures. over 800 ZimRights members participated. This helped in creating and enhancing understanding of the constitution among ZimRights structures. Highlights of the impact of the hands-off campaign was witnessed when ZimRights members throughout 2020 took more bold steps in challenging political leadership on human rights violations. ZimRights members across the country also took a stand in defense of the Constitution where the right to peace was breached as a result of the improved consciousness. ZimRights structures from the 11 provinces filed police reports against the utterances by the then acting Zanu PF spokesperson, Patrick Chinamasa who had labelled civil society organisations as, “evil society” as well as branding them “terrorist” organizations. The members argued that Chinamasa's utterances violated section 61 (5) of the Constitution that prohibited hate speech. CJ also supported community members in mobilization and defending the constitution by standing against the Constitution Amendment Bill No.2 of 2019. CJ shared knowledge on the implications of the amendments.

#### Constitution Clubs

ZimRights established 8 Constitution Clubs in Bulawayo, Harare, Matebeleland South and Masvingo provinces. These are at Hlezana Secondary School, Greatstride College, Prince Edward, Victoria, Magwegwe, St Columbas, Usher and Cyrene High



#Hands-Off The Peoples' Constitution  
Billboard at ZimRights Offices

Schools. Constitution clubs ensured that the youth are not left out in the constitutionalism conversations. The activities within the constitutional clubs culminated in the inaugural constitutional summit held as one event in 3 locations (Harare, Bulawayo and Matebeleland South). The event took place on Tuesday 1 December 2020. Giving the keynote address, Justice Chinhengo explained the foundation on which the Constitution Clubs are built on, that is section 7 of the Zimbabwean constitution. He emphasised the supremacy of the constitution and lauded ZimRights for giving life to Section 7 through the establishment of Constitution Clubs.

Justice Chinhengo also launched the 'Level Up: A Handbook for Constitution Clubs in Zimbabwe' published by ZimRights.

The handbook equips members of a Constitution Club with the necessary knowledge for them to be able to educate their peers and also undertake club activities aimed at promoting the goals of the Constitution Club. The handbook is therefore also a training tool which teachers can use for the instruction and induction of Constitution Club members.



## iv. HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING PROJECT

### Civic Awareness Workshops

ZimRights conducted a total of

# 24

civic awareness workshops  
(3 Voter Education workshops and  
21 Human Rights Education workshops).

The Voter Education workshops  
were attended by a total of

# 321

(147 men and 174 women) and Human  
Rights Education workshops reached

# 2742

(1173 men and 1569 women).

Voter Education workshops were conducted in Chegutu ward 2, Chimanimani ward 16 at Tiya Primary and Mangwe ward 16 at Makorokoro Primary School. The human rights workshops were conducted in Hurungwe, Masvingo, Kariba, Nyamazizi, Macheke, Chitungwiza, Harare, Hwange, Kadoma Gweru.

Out of 21 workshops, 9 were conducted  
in rural areas with a total attendance of

# 1702

(752 men and 950 women) compared to 1040  
(421 men and 619 women) of urban areas.

In Chimanimani – Tiya community, Hurungwe and Nyamazizi, the activities helped to foster good relations between community members and local leadership including councilors and headmen. The meetings were able to provide a platform for the community to discuss their priorities and agree with councilors on how devolution funds were supposed to be utilised. The meetings provided platforms for discussing community development projects. The meetings also provided an opportunity for communities in Macheke, Hwange and Lupane to discuss issues such as unfair distribution of food aid, political violence and allocation of land for communal housing and farming purposes.

The meetings also provided platforms for communities in urban areas to discuss about poor service delivery and failure to access medical care, among other things. The meetings came at the right time as communities were struggling to congregate and discuss community challenges. ZimRights was able to engage key stakeholders such as traditional leaders and political party representatives on the realization constitution especially the Bill of Rights. Rights such as freedom of association, freedom of assembly, right to food, right to vote and the right to health were some of the topical human rights issues that were discussed during the meetings.



Voter mobilizers pose for a photo after the Voter Education Workshop in Chegutu Ward 2

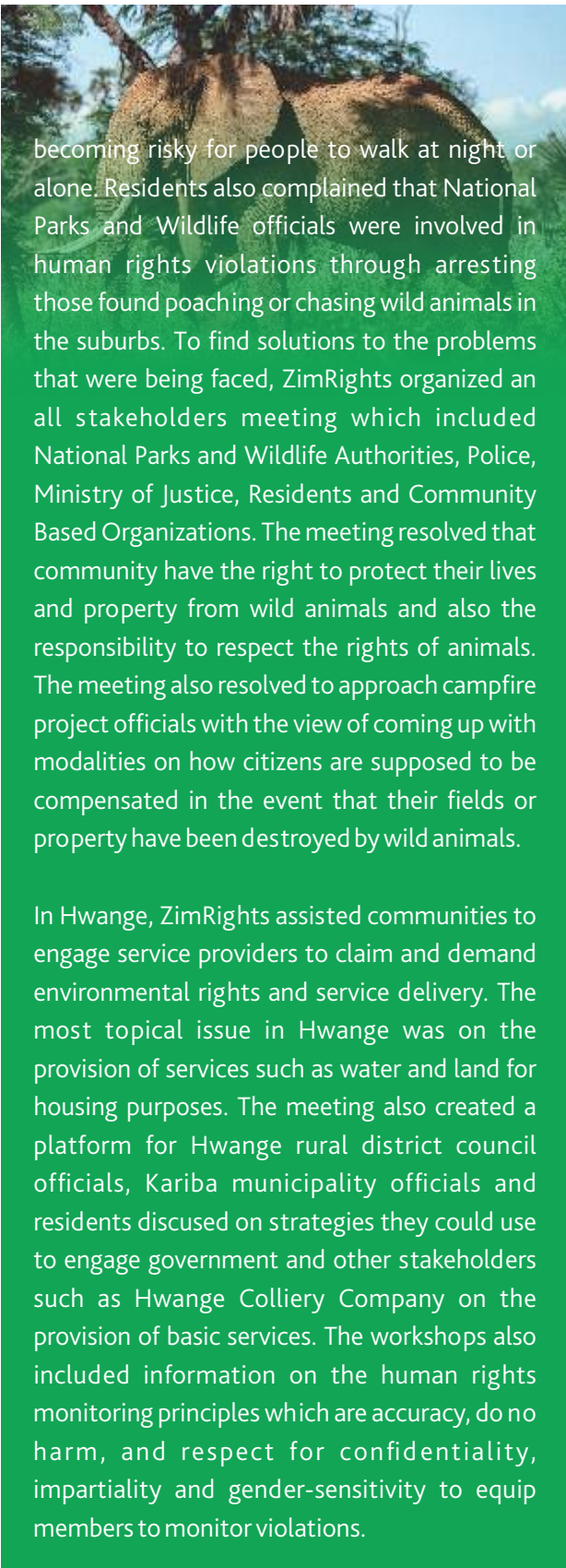
Participants at the Nyamhunga-Kariba  
Human Rights Education Workshop



In Matabeleland South Province, ZimRights conducted a Voter Education Workshop at Makorokoro Primary School in ward 17 of Mangwe South Constituency. The workshop capacitated and increased constitutional awareness, specifically the right to vote. ZimRights observed that youth participation in electoral processes had been dampened and affected by a number of factors which included access to registration documents such as national identity documents. Youths who attended indicated that they were not interested in voting as they didn't see the importance. ZimRights engaged the youth, explaining the importance of voting and convinced some of the youths who attended the workshop on the importance of youth participation in electoral processes.

In Chegutu ZimRights rekindled and emphasised the importance of citizen participation in elections. During the meeting, citizens were encouraged to actively participate and work together. In a bid to prepare people for the local council by-elections ZimRights established a total of 5 voter mobilization teams. The teams were tasked with mobilising citizens to participate in the local council by-elections and this resulted in a total of 250 voters being mobilised to vote during the by-election which was conducted on the 17th of March 2020.

Workshops in Nyamhunga (Kariba), Chinotimba (Victoria Falls), Gweru, Kadoma and Chitungwiza focused on service delivery which the communities identified as the main hindrance to enjoying their rights. There was an upsurge in cases of poor refuse collection, lack of electricity, lack of water, poor roads network and increased domestic violence cases. In Kariba ZimRights discovered that the most topical issue was on human and wildlife conflict. Residents complained that elephants were causing havoc in Nyamhunga and Mahombekombe areas and it was



becoming risky for people to walk at night or alone. Residents also complained that National Parks and Wildlife officials were involved in human rights violations through arresting those found poaching or chasing wild animals in the suburbs. To find solutions to the problems that were being faced, ZimRights organized an all stakeholders meeting which included National Parks and Wildlife Authorities, Police, Ministry of Justice, Residents and Community Based Organizations. The meeting resolved that community have the right to protect their lives and property from wild animals and also the responsibility to respect the rights of animals. The meeting also resolved to approach campfire project officials with the view of coming up with modalities on how citizens are supposed to be compensated in the event that their fields or property have been destroyed by wild animals.

In Hwange, ZimRights assisted communities to engage service providers to claim and demand environmental rights and service delivery. The most topical issue in Hwange was on the provision of services such as water and land for housing purposes. The meeting also created a platform for Hwange rural district council officials, Kariba municipality officials and residents discussed on strategies they could use to engage government and other stakeholders such as Hwange Colliery Company on the provision of basic services. The workshops also included information on the human rights monitoring principles which are accuracy, do no harm, and respect for confidentiality, impartiality and gender-sensitivity to equip members to monitor violations.



### Human Rights Monitors Training Workshops

ZimRights conducted 12 Human Rights Monitors training workshops covering seven provinces. The selected provinces had recorded a sharp increase of human rights violations. These provinces included Harare, Chitungwiza, Manicaland, Midlands, Mashonaland West, Mashonaland East and Mashonaland Central. A total number of 128 monitors (70 females and 58 males) were trained. The training included basic understanding of human rights, human rights documentation and human rights monitoring. The selected human rights monitors were also capacitated on the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission case management procedures. ZimRights observed that basic human rights such as health, clean environment, and freedom of movement, freedom to perform economic activities such as mining remained dangerous especially in Midlands, Manicaland and Mashonaland Central Provinces. Provision of basic amenities such as water and sanitation none existant in all of the provinces. The insurgence of machetes wilding gangs in Mash West, Midlands, Manicaland and Mash Central mining areas which include Kadoma, Mazowe, Bindura, Penhalonga, Zvishavane, Kwekwe, Zhombe and Gokwe remained a cause for concern. ZimRights engaged the police in Zhombe and Kwekwe following increased cases of murder and arson. The police with the help of communities were able to contain the situation and a number of artisanal miners and their ring leaders were arrested and charged.

Human Rights Monitors were trained and equipped with knowledge and skills to identify, document and report human rights violations and this resulted in more than 1000 cases of human rights violations reported and documented by ZimRights. Women and men acquired knowledge of their rights as enshrined in the Constitution especially Chapter 4 - Bill of Rights through making intensive use of the translated version of the Bill of rights in vernacular languages. The Bill of Rights was translated into several languages including Nambia, Tonga, Chewa, Kalanga, Ndebele and Shona. The copies were handed out to the participants during training meetings and workshops across the country. This enhanced citizen appreciation and understanding of human rights issues as well as the capacity of ordinary men and women to be able to demand and defend human rights from duty bearers.

The trainings created possible interventions for the violations that were recorded in the respective provinces. The trainings were also able to capacitate communities to capture emerging human rights violations cases and to employ a local response mechanism. This widened the capacity and ability of ZimRights as a grassroots organisation to be able to identify and report on human rights violations across the country. The trainings also capacitated the monitors with citizen journalism techniques to ensure recording and sharing of accurate information. Monitors were taught on the importance of using reliable and independent sources as well as to verify reported human rights violations



**Human Rights Monitors were trained and equipped with knowledge and skills to identify, document and report human rights violations.**

## Human Rights Violations Verification Visits

A total of

**30** Human Rights Violations  
Verifications visits were conducted,  
with a reach of **684**  
people (340 females and 344 males).

The continued violations of human rights mainly by the state and its apparatus as they enforced COVID-19 lockdowns were major challenges throughout 2020. More than 40% of human rights violations recorded in 2020 by ZimRights were due to improper enforcement of COVID-19 regulations. There was an increase in state sponsored violence targeting political activists especially those aligned to MDC Alliance and students.

More than

**5000** 

people were also arrested for violating COVID-19 lockdown in both urban and rural communities.

ZimRights during verification visits discovered and observed that selective distribution of COVID-19 Relief Aid was a cause for concern. ZimRights was able to visit Chiredzi, Nyamazizi, Redcliffe, Gutu, Hurungwe and Hwange.

## Evictions

Violent land disputes being perpetuated by politicians were rampant in 2020.

ZimRights assisted over

**20000** residents from Bella-Paise Estate of Epworth,

Protea Farm in Glendale and Chilonga in Chiredzi where communities were facing potential evictions. In Epworth, the Bella-Paise residents were threatened and issued with 48 hours eviction notices by City of Harare in June 2020 while Protea Farm workers were given 90 hours eviction notice by someone who claimed to be the rightful owner of the farm. The eviction notices ordered the residents to demolish their structures and vacate from the areas they had lived for several decades. In all the cases attended to by ZimRights, residents were not given any alternative land nor informed of compensation as is required by the law. ZimRights was able to approach Bella-Paise residents and the organization managed to organize a series of meetings between the residents and the City of Harare which then resulted in the cancellation of eviction notices. Bella-Paise residents were very much relieved and expressed their gratitude to ZimRights for the assistance offered. ZimRights submitted a letter to Harare City Council after the dialogues.

ZimRights played the mediator role for Glendale – Protea Farm evictions. A platform for dialogue was created with the 8 families (victims) and the “supposed” farm owner which led to suspension of the evictions.



## V. MEDIA AND ADVOCACY

ZimRights strengthened strategic communication as a way of effectively communicating with members. True to the promise of building a wide network of communication platforms, ZimRights launched a new interactive website to allow human rights defenders to access tools and resources for championing human rights.

In 2020 ZimRights launched its new media bouquet – ZimRightsLIVE. ZimRights LIVE brought together ZimRights' media platforms incorporating its Facebook, Twitter, and Podcast. In addition, ZimRights launched its brand new YouTube Channel, Instagram, and LinkedIn. These tools are part of ZimRights' Digital Activism Strategy designed to provide a variety of tools for human rights activists to undertake positive acts to advance the human rights cause.

Using the digital tools launched during the year, ZimRights became a leading hub of human rights information.



On Facebook, ZimRights followers increased from 8795 to

**23 639**



On Twitter, ZimRights moved from 37 235 to

**42 200**

followers

At the highest Peak our twitter impressions hit 3.9million in August. By 31 December 2020 ZimRights; Facebook page had an average reach of 15 941 people post engagements of 1982 people with the total page likes being 22 000. The YouTube Channel launched late September had 28 subscribers and 416 views for the 12 videos that had been uploaded. The monthly podcasts were directly distributed to 500 people and the number rises exponentially through sharing.

ZimRights contributed to the right to information through bringing human rights information which empowers communities to take a stand for human rights. Communities have been able to engage on human rights and civic matters through the ZimRights online platform.



Our social media platforms combined had an average reach of 47 560 per month. Throughout the year, ZimRights produced its monthly newsletter highlighting human rights issues and sharing information on new resources that the organization had developed for use by human rights defenders.

To equip ZimRights provinces and decentralize dissemination of information, throughout the year ZimRights trained 11 representatives from the Provincial Chapters on Communications and Digital Activism. The training was meant to equip the 11 provincial representatives, Human Rights Defenders with the skills to effectively communicate, document,

capture and report on human rights issues emerging from their communities. ZimRights have been working with Human Rights Defenders across all its 11 Provinces to verify and document human rights violations, to help in building a human rights conscious society and to stand up and question human rights violation and seek redress. Through this training, ZimRights created a devolved digital activism hub at provincial level and enabled ZimRights local activists to take advantage of the digital tools to advance their local human rights issues and plug into the national conversation. As a result of the training, all 11 Provinces have their social media accounts.

### BeTheChampion4Rights Media Campaign

5 Street Billboards with the **#BeTheChampions4Rights** were designed and erected in October 2020, after ZimRights adopted an island along SV Muzenda Street, between Herbert Chitepo and Fife Avenue.

5 videos were recorded with leading human rights and community activists explaining on the importance of championing human rights.



ZimRights Billboards along Simon Muzenda Street

## vi. WORKING WITH INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS

ZimRights maintained and improved its existing strategic working partnerships with the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) and National Peace and Reconciliation Commission. These strategic partnerships helped communities to get more knowledge on the commission and their roles as mechanisms of promoting peace.

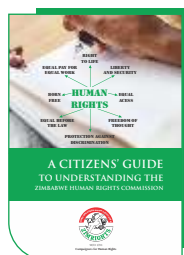


## PUBLICATIONS



### THE GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING DEVOLUTION

ZimRights produced a Guide to understanding devolution as a resource to be used by those that wanted to understand devolution and also for trainers that would want to share knowledge on devolution. The Guide<sup>1</sup> was shared on the ZimRights website and was distributed as soft copies on WhatsApp. The guide was translated into Shona 750 copies and Ndebele, 250 copies were produced and all copies were distributed.



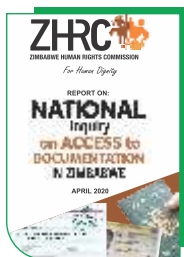
### A CITIZEN GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING THE ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

In order to promote the appreciation and understanding the role of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, tasked with promoting and raising awareness of and respect for human rights and freedoms ZimRights produced a guide that explained what the ZHRC is and its functions.<sup>2</sup> The guide was among the most downloaded resource from the website.

1. <https://www.zimrights.org.zw/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Guide-to-Understanding-Devolution-1.pdf>

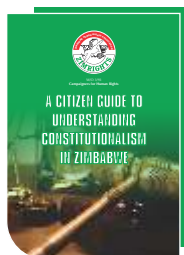
2. <https://www.zimrights.org.zw/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/A-Citizens-Guide-to-Understanding-the-ZHRC.pdf>





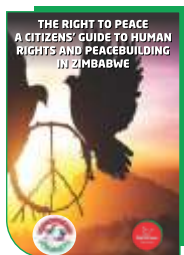
## SPECIAL REPORT ON ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION

The special report simplified the Zimbabwe Human Rights Report on the Inquiry on Access to Documentation.<sup>3</sup> The ZHRC report notes that over 2.3million Zimbabweans are undocumented yet access to documentation is a right.



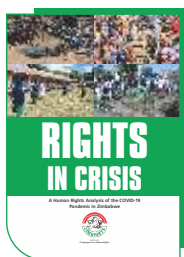
## A CITIZEN GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING CONSTITUTIONALISM IN ZIMBABWE

Understanding that without the public having knowledge of the constitution, it would be impossible to create the envisioned human rights conscious society in Zimbabwe, ZimRights produced this guide to enhance knowledge on constitutionalism.<sup>4</sup>



## A CITIZEN GUIDE TO PEACEBUILDING AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN ZIMBABWE

It is a manual like no other because it is an action manual. The manual<sup>5</sup> plays an important role in our fight for human rights. The manual is translated into 3 vernacular languages so it can reach many more of our members in languages they can relate to, that is Shona, Ndebele and Tonga. 105 copies per language were produced.



## RIGHTS IN CRISIS REPORT

ZimRights produced a special report, Rights in Crisis: A Human Rights Analysis of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Zimbabwe.<sup>6</sup> This was an analysis of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Human Rights in Zimbabwe. Launched in July 2020, the report captures the story of COVID-19 from its genesis in Wuhan Province of China, into Zimbabwe and the devastating effects on livelihoods and transformative impact on the way citizens worked and lived. The report combines community voices, victim testimonies and expert input. The report analyses the country's COVID-19 response, the

3. <https://www.zimrights.org.zw/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/ZHRC-NI-Report.pdf>

4. <https://www.zimrights.org.zw/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/A-Citizen-Guide-to-Understanding-Constitutionalism-in-Zimbabwe.pdf>

5. <https://www.zimrights.org.zw/the-right-to-peace-a-citizens-guide-to-human-rights-and-peace-building-in-zimbabwe/>

6. <https://www.zimrights.org.zw/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Rights-in-Crisis-Report-lr.pdf>



state of disaster preparedness and provides recommendations on how Zimbabwe can emerge better from the communities through upholding rights and prioritizing the community voices. ZimRights communities and experts documented their experiences and extracted key lessons to emerge from the disaster better and building a foundation for more resilient communities and more efficient institutions that are able to offer adequate protection for rights, especially for marginalized communities and vulnerable sectors during disasters.



## THE MOTLANTHE REPORT: WHAT'S NEXT FOR VICTIMS AND THE NATION

### An Analysis of the Recommendations of the Motlanthe Report Two Years Later

The report analyses the government's progress in implementing the recommendations made by the Commission of Inquiry following the 1st of August 2018 events. On 1 August 2018, following the delay in pronouncing the 2018 presidential election results, the military was deployed in Harare CBD's streets to 'disperse' demonstration. The deployment of members of the Zimbabwe National Army resulted in the deaths of six civilians and the injury of many citizens. After a public outcry condemning the military's deployment and the subsequent demand for justice for the crimes against humanity attributed to the members of the Zimbabwe National Army, President Emmerson Mnangagwa appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate into the shootings. The report interrogated three critical issues firstly the response by the government to establish the Commission of Inquiry, led by former President of South Africa Motlanthe, an investigation which ordinarily would have been carried by the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission as a constitutionally established independent commission with the mandate to investigate allegations of human rights violations. Secondly the comprehensive analysis of the progress in implementation of the recommendations by the Motlanthe Commission. Lastly the report called for the Zimbabwe Human right commission to adopt the recommendation as a way to ensure accountability of implementation of recommendations and force justice for victims.

For more on this report:

<https://www.zimrights.org.zw/service/current-campaigns/>



# COVID-19 MITIGATION STRATEGY

## THEIR VOICES MATTERS (SERIES)

ZimRights released a total of seven, “Their Voices Matters” reports on Community Responses to COVID-19 Measures. The reports carried community voices on their lockdown encounters since March 31 the first lockdown imposed by government in an effort to combat the spread of COVID-19. The reports covering the lockdown period brought out community views and experiences during the lockdown. Each of the series of reports closes with a conversation on possible solutions to the challenges identified and recommendations to government on how they can make use of a human rights centred approach to address the challenges.

ZimRights realised that in times of crises, many times community voices are ignored as leaders implement measures without consultations. ZimRights believes that effective solutions to our challenges can only be developed with the full participation of communities that are the worst affected by the measures in place.

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS ON COVID-19 MEASURES

In the face of a tragic unprecedented global pandemic, through lived experiences of communities and research, ZimRights noted that the Government of Zimbabwe was not prepared for the COVID-19 Pandemic. The policy briefs were a proactive approach by ZimRights meant to inform policy on the human rights centered approaches that government could take in dealing with the pandemic.

## COVID-19 RESPONSE PROGRAMME

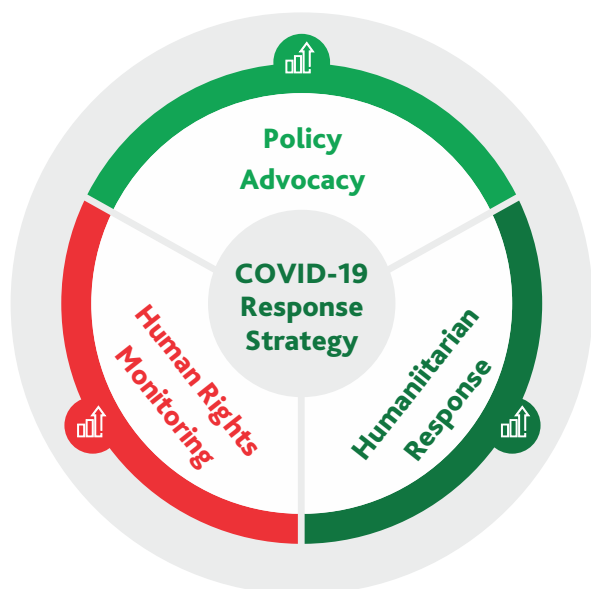
Having noted how COVID-19 was wreaking havoc in the communities that we worked in, ZimRights took a proactive approach in the fight against the spread of the novel coronavirus and set up a COVID-19 Response Team. This was part of a three-pillar COVID-19 response strategy that included Human Rights Monitoring, Humanitarian Response and Policy Advocacy. In an effort to alleviate the situation, ZimRights, with support from SIDA and IOM, embarked on supporting different institutions with PPEs and created avenues between communities and policy makers through community dialogues. All the provinces benefited.

ZimRights realized that the fight against COVID-19 was everyone's fight hence embarked on COVID-19 awareness and information dissemination through various organisational social media platforms.

ZimRights handed over 4000 x 100ml sanitizers, 3000 re-usable face masks, 5000 disposable face masks, 4000 disposable gloves, 20 x 50 liters' water dispensers and 50 x 20 liters' water buckets to 5190 partners. Hot spot institutions such as prisons, quarantine centres, schools, and clinics were supported with hygiene packs to reduce the infections.







## COVID PUBLIC INFORMATION

As part of the COVID-19 Response strategy, ZimRights produced and distributed a total of 4000 fliers, 500 posters, 500 newspapers cartoons and 400 reports with different COVID-19 messages. The information materials were shared on social media platforms mainly Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp groups. ZimRights believed that prevention was only possible through increased awareness about COVID-19 through trustworthy information sources.

ZimRights produced different coronavirus messages to create public awareness.

## RADIO PROGRAMS

Radio campaigns are an efficient tool to influence the public opinion because radio reaches a wider audience than any other medium, and is accessible to people who are otherwise isolated by geography, conflict, illiteracy or poverty in Zimbabwe. To reach a wider audience with its campaigns, ZimRights in 2020 conducted.

- Two Radio programmes on devolution at Hevoi FM(Masvingo) and Skies Metro (Bulawayo). The Radio Programmes enabled more information access on devolution.
- Four Radio programs on know your commission (ZHRC) were aired on Hevoi FM, Skies Metro, Khulumani FM, Wezhira FM
- Two radio programs designed to educate and capacitate communities on the provisions of the constitution of Zimbabwe were aired on Hevoi FM and Bulawayo's Skies FM with the view of Metro in Shona and Ndebele. Listeners had the opportunity to learn more on the constitution using local languages resulting in more understanding and appreciation of the constitution.
- Communities were given an opportunity to ask questions as well as fully understand the role and functions of (ZHRC) using social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Whatsapp etc.







## KEY COMMEMORATIONS

On the 2nd and 3rd of December 2020, ZimRights commemorated the International Human Rights Day celebrated on every 10th of December in Marondera and Harare. The theme was Youth, Human Rights and COVID-19: Towards a Human Rights Centered Recovery Plan for Zimbabwe. Held in collaboration with Theatre in the Park, there was a theatre performance "Being Zimbabwean" where youths reminisced on the COVID-19 pandemic journey and a panel discussion on youth, human rights and COVID-19. While attendance was limited to 100 people for the two physical events, several hundreds others were reached as the Harare commemorations were broadcast live on ZiFM stereo that broadcast throughout the country on FM and accessible around the world through internet streaming.

Another high during the commemorations was a photo exhibition by renowned photojournalist Tsvangirayi Mukwazhi, giving an opportunity to those who attended to live through some of the human rights violations that befell thousands of citizens in the year that the pandemic had started to wreak havoc.

## MARONDERA IHRD COMMEMORATIONS IN PICTURES



Participants at the IHRD Marondera Photo Exhibition



Marondera IHRD commemorations





Delegates in Marondera during IHRD commemorations

## HARARE IHRD COMMEMORATIONS IN PICTURES



Harare 2020 IHRD commemorations



Harare IHRD Commemorations



Delegates follow proceedings during the Harare IHRD commemorations





Takudzwa Ngadziore Zinasu President speaks about the human rights violations he was subjected to in 2020



Nokutenda Muzuva addresses Harare delegates at the IHRD commemorations on the challenges people living with disabilities faced in 2020 and Impact of Covid-19



## CHALLENGES, LESSONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The novel COVID-19 Virus brought a lot of challenges including a surge in human rights violations mainly by the security sectors as government implemented lockdowns to slow the rate of infection. The pandemic also meant that the organization had to re-strategise on how to deliver without endangering its members and secretariat. In spite of the COVID-19 challenge, ZimRights successfully implemented activities.

Corruption also escalated with government officials implicated in theft of public resources from government and supporting partners to fight COVID-19. The corruption and looting incensed citizens who exercised their rights to demonstrate and petition with the state using a heavy handedness to deal with the protesters.

This also had a negative impact on some community members who feared reprisal from the state for exercising their rights.

The COVID-19 pandemic worsened the country's comatose economy with the lockdowns pushing communities into further poverty.

Despite the challenges, ZimRights continued to implement its programmes and recruited more community human rights defenders who helped in monitoring and documenting human rights violations.

As ZimRights, we believe that these challenges make us stronger and gives us greater energy in championing human rights and creating human rights conscious society.



## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



### February

[https://zimstarnews.co.zw/zimrights-blasts-police-zanu-pf-group-over-chitungwiza-violence/?fbclid=IwAR2f8WFpcgjvemVdW9ic2UrteYpsiBsfMkLtT2aE649GPlxAlaELeA-\\_jQk](https://zimstarnews.co.zw/zimrights-blasts-police-zanu-pf-group-over-chitungwiza-violence/?fbclid=IwAR2f8WFpcgjvemVdW9ic2UrteYpsiBsfMkLtT2aE649GPlxAlaELeA-_jQk)

<https://www.newzimbabwe.com/new-zimrights-director-speaks-on-police-brutality/>

### March

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/03/zimrights-urges-transparency-in-cyclone-idai-aid-distribution/>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/03/covid-19-gvt-urged-to-capacitate-local-hospitals/>

<https://www.thestandard.co.zw/2020/03/03/zimrights-raises-concern-chitungwiza-incidents/>

<https://www.263chat.com/zimrights-petitions-parliament-over-nomination-period/>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/03/zimrights-urges-transparency-in-cyclone-idai-aid-distribution/>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/03/zim-situation-now-dire-zimrights/>

<https://www.zimeye.net/2020/03/18/zim-crisis-reaching-boiling-point-zimrights/>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/03/govt-response-to-covid-19-sluggish-zimrights/>

<https://www.thestandard.co.zw/2020/03/24/covid-19-zimrights-pays-tribute-medical-practitioners/>

## April

<https://www.newzimbabwe.com/govt-forgot-plight-of-people-with-disability-during-lockdown/>

## May

<https://www.theindependent.co.zw/2020/05/22/whose-responsibility-is-it/>

<https://www.thestandard.co.zw/2020/05/16/zimrights-condemns-torture-civilians-zimbabwe-republic-police/>

<https://www.fidh.org/en/region/Africa/zimbabwe/zimbabwe-fidh-and-zimrights-condemn-gross-human-rights-violations-by/>

## June

<https://www.theindependent.co.zw/2020/06/19/police-brutality-why-the-zim-us-outrage-is-different/>

<https://263chat.com/amp/zimrights-nayo-condemn-proposed-amendment-no-2-bill/>

## July

National Newspapers including Herald and Chronicles: <https://www.zbcnews.co.zw/zpcs-calls-for-support-in-covid-19-testing-for-inmates/>

ZBC TV during the handover of PPE at Gwanda Prison:

<https://www.facebook.com/113676888684862/posts/3395051360547382/?vh=e&d=n>

Tell Zim also captured the distribution in Chiredzi: <https://twitter.com/tellzimbabwe/status/1283753669805080576?s=21>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/04/dont-politicise-covid-19-aid-zimrights-tells-zanu-pf/>

<https://www.techzim.co.zw/2020/07/zim-rights-misa-file-urgent-chamber-application-to-stop-search-of-econet-premises/>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/07/protests-ed-goes-after-critics/>

## August

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/08/mdc-alliance-cllr-found-dead/>

<https://soundcloud.com/zimrights/zimrights-national-director-on-the-extra-judicial-killing-of-chiwaya-in-karoi/>

<https://www.voanews.com/episode/nightline-africa-4359596>

## September

<https://dailynews.co.zw/arrest-land-barons-zimrights/>



<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/09/epworth-residents-turn-to-pool-of-death-for-water/>

<https://263chat.com/claim-your-space-zimbabwe-youths-urged/>

<https://dailynews.co.zw/ratify-conventions-against-torture-zimrights-tells-govt/>

### October

<https://www.thestandard.co.zw/2020/10/25/there-are-no-human-rights-without-love/>

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/10/khupe-parly-return-an-attack-on-democracy-zimrights/>

### November

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/10/khupe-parly-return-an-attack-on-democracy-zimrights/>

### December

<https://www.zimrights.org.zw/on-the-occasion-of-the-international-human-rights-day/>

Prisoners putting on ZimRights face masks at Harare High Court

<https://www.facebook.com/ZimRightsLIVE/posts/3597520353633814>





## LOOKING AHEAD: 2021 AND BEYOND

In 2021 ZimRights will continue mobilizing ordinary people to undertake positive actions to transform their communities without waiting on someone in authority to solve their problems. We are the people. Yithi abantu bakhona. Tisu vanhu vacho. From the word 'ACT' we encourage our members to become people of action. We believe our path to transformation builds on ZimRights' strong legacy of grassroots mobilisation that has made us the biggest human rights movement in the country.

ZimRights is looking towards ensuring that there is implementation of a COVID-19 Centered Recovery Plan for 2021. We believe that we should emerge from the COVID-19 crisis better and more prepared for any future disasters.

This will be done through strengthening our priority areas. ZimRights will continue growing its membership base and activate its community structures to ensure that in every corner we have champions for human rights.

ZimRights will continue developing its strategic communication to ensure effective communication and entrench programming that impacts and change communities.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020



### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2020

	2020 \$000	2019 \$000
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Non Current Assets</b>		
Property and Equipment	166,320	186,491
	166,320	186,491
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Accounts Receivable	44,276	20,457
Cash	32,780	42,314
	77,057	62,771
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>243,377</b>	<b>249,263</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>		
Accumulated Fund	238,641	236,884
	238,641	236,884
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	4,736	12,739
	4,736	12,739
<b>Total Equity and Liabilities</b>	<b>243,377</b>	<b>249,623</b>

These financial statements were approved and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
**TAKESURE MUSIIWA**  
 National Chairperson

.....  
**DZIKAMAI BERE**  
 National Director



## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

### For the period 1 January to 31 December 2020

INCOME	CONSOLIDATED \$000	DONOR 1 \$000	DONOR 2 \$000	DONOR 3 \$000	DONOR 4 \$000	DONOR 5 \$000	DONOR 6 \$000	DONOR 7 \$000	DONOR 8 \$000	DONOR 9 \$000	OTHER INCOME \$000
Donation Income	523,751.01	104,051.82	49,600.00	30,113.91	82,028.96	110,617.26	106,553.52	4,756.26	13,029.28	23,000.00	-
Membership Income	311.22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	311.22
Rental Income	5,102.51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,102.51
Donor 11	5,323.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,323.00
Donor 12	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Other Income	11,725.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,725.80
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>548,213.54</b>	<b>104,051.82</b>	<b>49,600.00</b>	<b>30,113.91</b>	<b>82,028.96</b>	<b>110,617.26</b>	<b>106,553.52</b>	<b>4,756.26</b>	<b>13,029.28</b>	<b>23,000.00</b>	<b>24,462.53</b>
<b>PROJECT EXPENSES</b>	<b>452,285.29</b>	<b>87,056.86</b>	<b>26,445.57</b>	<b>33,247.56</b>	<b>78,713.06</b>	<b>101,918.12</b>	<b>104,193.32</b>	<b>2,375.00</b>	<b>10,166.80</b>	<b>1,900.00</b>	<b>6,269.00</b>
Project Expenditure	256,850.79	60,128.86	17,186.47	18,641.56	65,783.06	35,878.56	42,526.48	140.00	9,096.80	1,500.00	5,969.00
Salaries and Wages	195,434.50	26,928.00	9,259.10	14,606.00	12,930.00	66,039.56	61,666.84	2,235.00	1,070.00	400.00	300.00
<b>ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES</b>	<b>72,352.08</b>	<b>17,137.37</b>	<b>1,792.93</b>	<b>7,714.57</b>	<b>17,557.19</b>	<b>13,245.73</b>	<b>9,935.25</b>	<b>162.24</b>	<b>83.20</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>4,523.60</b>
Other Expenses	1,647.46	13.02	-	-	664.15	358.96	3.43	-	-	-	607.90
Surplus/ (Deficit) from Operations	21,928.71	(155.43)	21,361.50	(10,848.22)	(14,905.44)	(4,905.55)	(7,578.48)	(2,219.02)	2,779.28	20,900.00	13,062.03
<b>Represented by:</b>											
Cash and bank	32,778.75	222.29	21,322.60	84.92	259.55	10.12	764.67	2,219.02	2,779.28	1,342.52	3,773.78
Receivables	44,276.23	-	38.90	-	4,981.31	16,789.77	486.25	-	-	19,557.48	2,422.52
Payables	(4,733.90)	(200.00)	-	-	-	-	(998.17)	-	-	-	(3,535.73)
Retained Income	(216,712.61)	(177.72)	-	(10,933.14)	(20,146.30)	(21,705.44)	(7,831.23)	-	-	-	(155,918.78)
Fixed Assets	166,320.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	166,320.24
	<b>21,928.71</b>	<b>(155.43)</b>	<b>21,361.50</b>	<b>(10,848.22)</b>	<b>(14,905.44)</b>	<b>(4,905.55)</b>	<b>(7,578.48)</b>	<b>2,219.02</b>	<b>2,779.28</b>	<b>20,900.00</b>	<b>13,062.03</b>

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Head Office

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Membership Issues:  
[membership@zimrights.org.zw](mailto:membership@zimrights.org.zw)

### Bulawayo Office

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Email: [bulawayo@zimrights.org.zw](mailto:bulawayo@zimrights.org.zw)

### Masvingo Office

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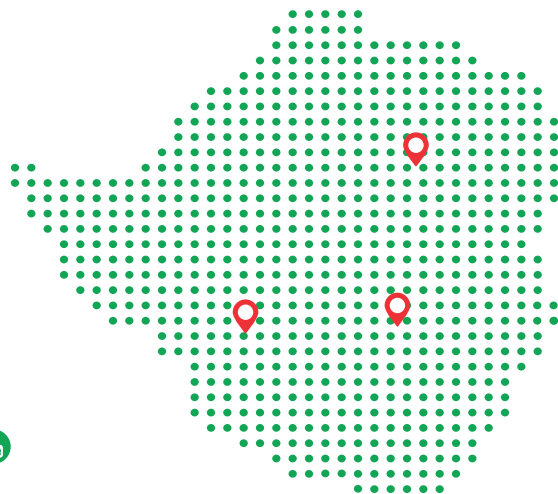


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Campaigners for Human Rights



[www.zimrights.org.zw](http://www.zimrights.org.zw)



### **About ZimRights**

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) is an indigenous non-profit, non-governmental organisation registered under the Private Voluntary Organisation Act. It was formed in 1992 and registered in 1993 for the sole purpose of insuring that Zimbabweans are ensured of their rights as citizens and are equipped and empowered with the knowledge to defend their rights.