

## **The People's Human Rights Manifesto: Show Up Zimbabwe**

### **#ShowUpZW Launch**

On 12 April 2023, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) and several partners, will be launching the People's Human Rights Manifesto (the People's Manifesto) in Harare at Theatre in the Park at 10am.

The Manifesto is part of the *Show Up Zimbabwe Campaign* (#ShowUpZW) aimed at mobilising Zimbabweans to exercise their democratic right to participate in elections and other democratic processes. Section 67 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe outlines several political rights which every Zimbabwean is entitled to.

Over the years, ZimRights has provided accompaniment to individuals and societies facing obstacles to participation by providing support that enabled them to exercise their rights. As we enter the next electoral season, ZimRights continues to play its part and showing up for the people of Zimbabwe, supporting the free exercise of the right to participate.

### **Introducing the People's Human Rights Manifesto**

Beyond sharing information and providing transport to marginalised communities, this season we are going a step further. We believe it is not enough to simply show up to vote. We want to encourage people to show up for every democratic process with purpose, substance, determination, and conviction. As a human rights movement, we are encouraging our members and all the members of the public to exercise their rights in a manner that advances the human rights agenda. This is where the People's Human Rights Manifesto (PHRM) comes in.

The PHRM is a dialogue tool that our movement, together with many other partners, are presenting to every voter who cares about human rights, to claim back the people's power in setting the electoral agenda. It is designed to open a conversation with the prospective leaders about possible human rights commitments, should they secure the vote. Precisely, these are 10 key human rights asks from the voters to the prospective leaders, asking them to sign up to a pact to uphold or work towards the listed human rights asks. The PHRM offers an opportunity to communities to have a dialogue on elections that is mutual and beneficial to both sides. While traditionally politicians are used to simply demand votes and disappear, under the new campaign, they will be required to also commit in a clear and documented way.

### **Elections and Leadership Accountability**

The PHRM brings to an end the era of perishable election promises that die in the ballot and stink in the streets. Leaders who desire public office must sign up to the PHRM. Once they accept the PHRM, each community opens a tracking log for all commitments and a rate card for the communities to hold the leaders accountable for their commitments.

The PHRM will offer the voter the following:

- A dialogue starter on human rights and democracy
- A clear catalogue of commitments by prospective leaders
- A tracking tool to track the commitments beyond election day

- A rate card to evaluate implementation of the agreed commitments.
- A pathway to make human rights a priority during and after the elections.

Through the HRM, it is not business as usual. Elections are no longer just about the election day. They are about life, human rights and accountability.

### **Activities, Tools and Resources**

A series of activities will accompany the campaign starting off with the Political Leaders Human Rights Dialogue on the day of the launch. A number of resources have been prepared for communities that are ready to plug into the Campaign. ZimRights has developed 3 crucial tools to advance this course. These are:

- The People's Human Rights Manifesto Toolkit
- The Guide to Elections and Democracy
- The Knowledge for Action Manual on Civic Engagement

These resources are available on the ZimRights website under 'Resources' and available in physical copies at the various sites of the activities. You can request these resources by email to [info@zimrights.org.zw](mailto:info@zimrights.org.zw)

### **Join the Campaign**

- If you want to join this campaign, there are many ways. Please get in touch with the Campaign team on [info@zimrights.org.zw](mailto:info@zimrights.org.zw)
- To read and endorse the Manifesto, visit [www.zimrights.org.zw/peoplesmanifesto](http://www.zimrights.org.zw/peoplesmanifesto)
- To register to attend the launch of the People's Human Rights Manifesto, use this link <https://forms.gle/hwtiHA8DE6xApP879> or send an email to [events@zimrights.org.zw](mailto:events@zimrights.org.zw) .
- If you are an individual or an organisation seeking to partner with ZimRights in this campaign, write to [myvoice@zimrights.org.zw](mailto:myvoice@zimrights.org.zw)
- To get updates on the campaign, join our mailing list here, or follow our social media platforms.