

# ZACRAS

||||| *Airwaves*

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# ZACRAS

## *Airwaves*



## OUR COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY RADIOS

The Zimbabwe Association of Community Radio Stations, remains committed to enhancing the skills of community journalists in delivering quality radio programming. In our latest efforts, ZACRAS successfully conducted training sessions for several community radios and initiatives in the month of April.

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## Top News

ZACRAS Conducts Board Inductions for Community Radio Initiatives

Minister Launches Media Industry Sexual Harassment Policy







# FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR

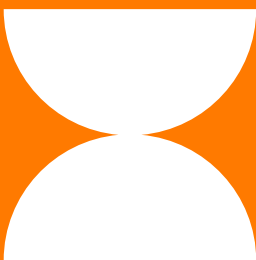
Welcome to our April Edition of the ZACRAS Airwaves!

During the month of April, we celebrated Zim@44 and as ZACRAS we joined the rest of country in reflecting on the gains that have been made since attaining our independence but more importantly focusing on opening of the airwaves for community broadcasting.

April being the 4th month in the calendar brings in a change of seasons as it ushers in winter in this part of the world. As we embrace this season, it is a time for growth and we celebrate the power of communication and connection as per the Independence Theme of Unity, Power and Connection in our communities.

In this edition we will be highlighting the local events to amplifying diverse voices that were part of the April Journey through our member stations and initiatives that serve as beacons of unity and understanding. As we continue to navigate the challenges and triumphs of our communities, let us lean on the strength of our collective voices to inspire positive change and serve as a tool for community development, we strive to foster a sense of belonging for all.

Thank you for being a part of our vibrant community radio sector!



*Sandra Mazunga*

NATIONAL COORDINATOR

# Minister Launches Media Industry Sexual Harassment Policy



In a significant step towards ensuring a safe and inclusive working environment within Zimbabwe's media industry, the Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services, Dr. Jenfan Muswere, officially launched the Media Industry Sexual Harassment Policy earlier this month.

The policy, developed by the Zimbabwe Media Commission (ZMC), aims to combat sexual harassment and foster a culture of respect and equality within the media sector.

The launch event was attended by prominent figures from the media industry, including journalists, media executives, representatives from media organizations, and members of civil society.

The occasion marked a crucial milestone in the ongoing efforts to address workplace harassment and discrimination.

Speaking at the event, Minister Muswere emphasized the Ministry's commitment to promoting a safe and conducive working environment for media professionals. He highlighted the importance of the policy in safeguarding the rights and dignity of all individuals working in the media sector, irrespective of their gender. The policy's development was led by the Zimbabwe Media Commission, an independent regulatory body responsible for overseeing media operations in the country. The Commission played a pivotal

role in consulting with various stakeholders, including media organizations, journalists, and legal experts, to create a comprehensive and effective framework to address sexual harassment.

Addressing attendees, ZMC Chairperson Professor Ruby Magosvongwe emphasized that the policy is a response to the pressing issue that has plagued the media industry for far too long. She highlighted the importance of awareness, education, and prevention in combating sexual harassment within the media industry.

Ms. Jane Godia, Deputy Executive Director highlighted that the policy provides clear guidelines and procedures for reporting and addressing incidents of sexual harassment, ensuring confidentiality, and facilitating fair investigations.



# ZACRAS Conducts Board Inductions for Community Radio Initiatives



The Zimbabwe Association of Community Radio Stations (ZACRAS) has taken significant strides in advancing the development of community radio in Zimbabwe by conducting a series of board inductions for various community radio initiatives across the country ahead the call for licencing by the Ministry of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services.

As part of their efforts to enhance local media engagement and participation, ZACRAS has successfully conducted board inductions for Kumakomo Community Radio Initiative, Kwekwe Community Radio Initiative, and Dialogue FM in Bulawayo.

The board inductions, designed to equip community radio boards with the necessary knowledge and skills, were held with funding from IMS.

The sessions focused on providing comprehensive guidance on the establishment, management, and operation of community radio stations, emphasizing the importance of community involvement and sustainable practices.

The initiative aims to provide a platform for local voices, fostering community cohesion and empowering marginalized groups. The board members received training on governance structures, programming strategies, fundraising techniques, and legal compliance relevant to community radio operations.

The board inductions conducted by ZACRAS have been met with enthusiasm and appreciation from the respective community radio initiatives. Board members expressed gratitude for the opportunity to enhance their understanding of community radio operations, governance, and programming. They acknowledged

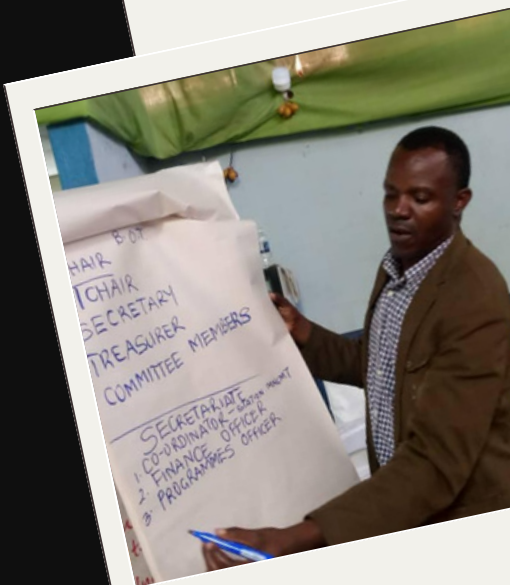
the invaluable support provided by ZACRAS in building their capacity and ensuring the sustainable growth of their initiatives.

As ZACRAS continues its efforts to promote community radio stations in Zimbabwe, they remain committed to fostering an enabling environment for local voices to be heard and community issues to be addressed. The board inductions mark significant milestones in the advancement of community radio in Zimbabwe, paving the way for increased community participation and media diversity in the country.



**SCAN HERE**  
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INDUSTRY SEXUAL  
HARASSMENT POLICY







# Gender and Media Connect Launches Revised Gender Policy



Gender and Media Connect, an organization working towards gender equality in the media industry in Zimbabwe, launched its Revised Gender Policy with the support of WAN-IFRA Women in News.

The policy launch marked a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to promote gender equity, inclusivity, and fair representation within the country's media landscape.

The launch event, held in Harare, brought together key stakeholders from the media industry, including journalists and representatives from women's organizations. The occasion provided a platform for discussions on the importance of gender-sensitive media practices and the role of the Revised Gender Policy in achieving these goals.

The Revised Gender Policy, developed by Gender and Media Connect in collaboration with WAN-IFRA Women in News, addresses various aspects of gender inequality in media, ranging from newsroom practices and editorial. The policy provides guidelines and recommendations to media

organizations and professionals, aiming to create a more inclusive and gender-responsive media environment.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Director of Gender and Media Connect, Ms. Patience Zirima highlighted the significance of the Revised Gender Policy in advancing gender equality in the media industry. She emphasized the need for media organizations to adopt gender-sensitive practices, ensuring that women's voices and perspectives are represented and respected.

WAN-IFRA Women in News, a global initiative promoting gender equality in the media, provided support and expertise in the development of the Revised Gender Policy. Through capacity-building programs, the initiative has been instrumental in empowering women journalists and fostering gender balance in newsrooms.

Representatives from WAN-IFRA Women in News expressed their commitment to supporting the achievement of gender sensitive reporting in the country

# Kariba's right hand continues to sanctify its local needy

By Kasambabezi FM correspondent



It is confirmed that there are an estimated 258 million widows around the globe, and nearly one in ten live in extreme poverty. As women, they have specific needs, but their voices and experiences are often absent from policies that impact their survival. Supporting widows and pregnant women is a compassionate and impactful way to make a difference. The community of Kariba identified Mai Muhoni from local board Mahombekombe, Kariba who is a mother of two boys, having had lost her husband on 14th of February 2024 and was left with pregnancy that has twin girls confirmed by a scan done by sister Tembo of Kariba hospital. The loss of a partner is devastating. For many women, that loss is magnified by a long- term struggle for basic needs, their human rights and dignity. They may be denied inheritance rights to the piece of land that they relied on for livelihood or evicted from their homes, forced into unwanted marriages or traumatizing widowhood rituals. They are stigmatized for life, shunned and shamed. And many of these abuses go unnoticed, even normalized

However, for Kariba, it is a different story as Mai Muhoni who was struggling with severe depression after losing her partner, overwhelmed at the prospect of providing for herself and her children on her own got the Kariba's right hand of blessing by giving coming through into her life. Residents in Kariba picked up her unfortunate condition during the Kasambabezi Community Radio show called 'Family Matters' hosted by Auntie Cee and the results were just marvelous as resources were quickly mobilized for her. Special mention would go to sister Tembo, Auntie Cee, Mr Sithole, Mai Tafadzwa, Mai Chikukwa, Mai Madzamba, Mai Tafadzwa, Mai Kafere, Mai Ruzvidzo and Mai Mubaira for leading the processes of providing food and clothes. A recommendation has been that the program move on to register for charity work, but the Station head Mr. John Chirinda said that community radios are a driver to enable and expedite development through other organisations who already are working on such programs. He called upon such like-minded organisations to grab the opportunities that radio has brought and change people's lives.



Chirinda went on to say that, “Women and girl child empowerment and development should be at the centre of programming as it shapes the current life and future regards cultural stigmatization eradication and liberty from bondage.” At Kasambabezi FM, the Thursday evening program ‘Family Matters’ has created a network of families and especially women to support each other emotionally and now socially as well as economically. Mai Muhoni appreciated the support by the community through KFM by saying; “Not only has the assistance by KFM enabled me to provide for my children and the unborn twins, it has become my sanctuary. Surrounded by love from women of my age who might also have overcome similar situations, we became each other's support system and friends,” she went further to say “I hope that my children find inspiration in this hand of love, care and giving, seeing how far I have come as a woman, despite the circumstances.”

# BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY

Are you a community journalist? Send us articles about what's happening in your community and you get a chance to be published in our monthly newsletter and social media pages.



## EMAIL US.

Email us at [cmubvuta@zacraszim.org](mailto:cmubvuta@zacraszim.org) and copy [desirekateyera@gmail.com](mailto:desirekateyera@gmail.com) with your story in word format. Your story should be less than 300 words. Include photographs where necessary.

Zimbabwe Association of Community Radio Stations



@zacrasonline



# QUALITY *Programming*

The Zimbabwe Association of Community Radio Stations, remains committed to enhancing the skills of community journalists in delivering quality radio programming. In our latest efforts, ZACRAS successfully conducted training sessions for several community radios and initiatives this month.



## OUR COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY RADIOS

The beneficiaries included Nhimbe Community Radio Initiative, Kasambabezi Community Radio, Vemuganga Community Radio, and Nkabazwe Community Radio Initiative. These training programs aimed to equip journalists with the necessary tools and techniques to produce engaging and

informative content for their respective communities.

ZACRAS continues to champion the development of community radio stations, empowering local voices and promoting inclusive communication across Zimbabwe.

Nhimbe FM community radio initiative is making waves by harnessing the power of social media to disseminate information and empower Rusape residents.



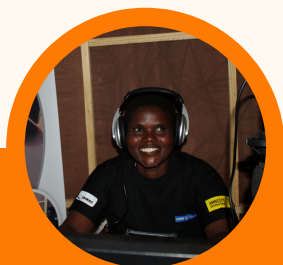
Though not yet licensed, Nhimbe FM has shown remarkable potential, and a recent training by the Zimbabwe Association of Community Radio Stations (ZACRAS) has further fueled their ambitions.

## NHIMBE F.M MAKES WAVES IN RUSAPE

Led by a group of passionate youths, Nhimbe FM has been operating as an online radio station, utilizing various social media platforms like Whatsapp, Facebook and Youtube to reach out to the community. Through regular updates, they provide news, entertainment, and educational content to keep residents informed and engaged. Recognizing the importance of delivering high-quality programming, Nhimbe FM recently received training from ZACRAS on producing content that meets professional standards. The training covered various aspects of radio programming, including effective research, journalism ethics, storytelling techniques, and technical skills.



The ZACRAS training not only enhanced the team's understanding of broadcasting principles but also instilled a sense of professionalism and responsibility in their approach. With this newfound knowledge, Nhimbe FM aims to raise the bar and deliver programming that is informative, relevant, and impactful to the community they serve.



The community has responded positively to Nhimbe FM's efforts, as the station has become a trusted source of information and a platform for local voices to be heard. From highlighting community initiatives to discussing pressing issues such as healthcare, education, and agriculture, Nhimbe FM has become a powerful tool for community mobilization and development.





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