



Economic Empowerment

The project is providing youths with opportunities to acquire vocational and entrepreneurship skills to enhance their livelihoods. The trainings are conducted based on market demand. The trained youths are being assisted to start their enterprises, through access to possible markets as well as provision of small grants based on business plans submitted.



Civic Participation

The project through civic participation continues to sensitize young people, their communities and policy makers on young women's rights as well as ensuring that young women and their communities have information on the services they require and where to access such is vital in fulfilling rights of young women, especially with regards to access to public services. This will be made possible through building the capacity of the young people on lobbying, advocacy, and social accountability around the delivery of GRPS in their area. The youth hub serves as the safe space to bring youth together and share their community experiences and advocacy initiatives. It further creates room for youth to engage with duty bearers on issues that affect them and to build progressive relations with them.



Project Stakeholders

The project is being co-implemented by ActionAid Zimbabwe and Katswe Sistahood in close cooperation with stakeholders in Harare South. Among the notable stakeholders are Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation, Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development Small and Medium Enterprises and Development (MoWACDSME), Ministry of Public Service, Labour, and Social Welfare (MoPSLSW), Ministry of Local Government, Public Works, and National Housing (MoLGPWNH), City of Harare, Social Services and Health departments, CSOs and community leaders in Harare South.



The Programmes and Projects Manager
Rumbidzayi Makoni
Action Aid Zimbabwe
26 Divine Road, Milton Park
Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel: +263 4 788122/3/5
Cell: +263 772 414 293

rumbidzayi.makoni@actionaid.org
Website: www.youthbox.co.zw
Facebook: @ActionAidZimbabwe
Twitter: @ActionAidZim

act:onaid



**DIGNIFIED LIVES AND
DECENT LIVELIHOODS
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN
HARARE SOUTH**



Introduction

ActionAid Zimbabwe and ActionAid Denmark in partnership with Katswe Sistahood are implementing a youth empowerment project titled Dignified Lives and Decent Livelihoods for Young People in Harare South with young people being drawn from Hopley, Southlands, Stoneridge, Waterfalls, Southlea Park and Ushewokunze. The project seeks to empower and transform the lives of young people, especially those that are exposed to harsh social and economic conditions influencing their changes in behaviour including engaging in societal ills such as sex work, drug abuse, theft, and violence at a young age.

The project is anchored on a community youth friendly space (Youth Hub) that creates a conducive environment for young people to share and learn through social entrepreneurship and advocacy. The main thrust of the hub will be to provide opportunities for capacity building and to serve as a platform for advocacy to improve young people's employability and skills to enhance sustainable livelihoods. The youth hub serves as the safe space for young people to convene and share their day-to-day experiences and conduct discussions on how to improve their personal and community lives with focus on building progressive relations with service providers. The youth hub houses, an information kiosk, a resource centre or library, conference facility, day care centre and skills training centre. The youth hub serves as a safe space for young people in Harare South that allows individuals to heal from different traumatic experiences whilst at the same time gaining critical knowledge and skills. The project seeks to empower them with social, cultural, economic, and general



life skills to emerge a better group of young people who are focused, and growth driven. The project implementation period runs from May 2021 to April 2026 with funding support from the Danish Television (DTV).



Overall Objective

By April 2026, at least 3 600 young people (2 880 females and 720 males) in the target wards of Harare South have improved livelihoods and access to public services to make informed choices and collectively assert their rights.



Project Components

These comprise of Psychosocial Support Services (PSS), Life skills trainings, Economic Empowerment and Civic Participation broken down as following:



Psychosocial Support Services (PSS)

The project provides counselling for survivors of sexual gender-based violence including individual and group therapy as well as peer to peer support. It creates platforms and linkages for young women to access health services and referrals for young people. Given the costs associated with health services, the project has been using the voucher-referral system to pay for the medical expenses of the vulnerable youth exposed to family planning ailments. Tied to the youth hub the project will support young people with temporary safe shelters for a period of not more than 24 hours which allows for them to access pre-counselling before being referred to fully equipped shelters.



Life Skills Trainings

The life-skills component allows for young people to be trained on personal health (mental, physical, psychological), assertiveness, body image, self-defence, sexual health, and reproductive health rights. Basic literacy and numeracy skills training (Grade 1-7) and bridging support for secondary school education will be offered to the youths in Harare South. Volunteers will be engaged to assist students with homework as well as to facilitate study groups. The life-skills component of the project increases the young people's community image and how they perceive themselves among others. The young people are equipped with skills to increase their confidence.

