



# GRRIPP

Gender Responsive  
Resilience and Intersectionality in  
Policy and Practice

# Countering female voter apathy and increasing female political candidates towards the 2023 Zimbabwean Elections

MWANASIKANA WANHASI

Harare, ZIMBABWE

## Starting situation/Resume

Mwanasikana Wanhasi is a Shona phrase for “The Girl Child of Today”. The organisation is feminist and youth-led, and located in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. It was founded in 2020 and is led by men (Annesley Ndondo and Owen Makanga) who identify as feminist. The organisation’s founding is a response to issues affecting girls and young women in Zimbabwe, which is their socioeconomic and political barriers limiting their full potential.

Annesley Ndondo, who is a social worker by profession, champions the organisation. The movement advocates for the socio-economic and political rights of girls and young women. This is done through fostering inclusion and participation for better livelihoods.

## Objectives

The organisation implements programs related to Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, female leadership, public participation and inclusion through #Leatherhead campaign, networking, and

partnerships to amplify advocacy messages, and menstrual health. Mwanasikana Wanhasi used the ‘theory of change’ method - which is results-focused - to assess their progress throughout the project.

The organisation empowers women to engage meaningfully in political processes by building awareness, investing in education and capacity building, establishing supportive networks, and transforming political culture.



*Annesley Ndondo facilitating a workshop with tertiary students in Bulawayo. Location: Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Credit: Mwanasikana Wanhasi (2023)*

## Lines of action

- Conducted five community Training of Trainers workshops in Stapleford village, where 100 participants attended. The workshop focused on voter rights awareness during electoral processes.
- Conducted two training workshops with students in Harare, where 40 participants learned on Mwanasikana's strategy to bolster women's participation in elections.
- Hosted five community dialogues in Mount tertiary Hampden, to engage local leaders to discuss how to increase women's participation in elections.

## Impact

Support from GRRIPP means more young women have increased knowledge about their rights, basic human rights, and how they should assert themselves in relation to the laws that protect them.

Over 1000 non-direct women benefitted from the project, and 326 women registered to vote through grantee support.

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*Annesley Ndongo, Co-founder of Mwanasikana. Location: Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Credit: Mwanasikana Wanhasi.*

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