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WOMEN IN COMMUNITIES
ZIMBABWE - WICO

NEWSLETTER



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EMPOWERING VOICES

Dialogue on Sexual Violence Against Persons with Disabilities - GWERU URBAN

In July 2025, Women in Communities took an initiative to engage in a sensitive dialogue with people living with disabilities to discuss the issue of sexual violence against this vulnerable group. The session aimed to create a safe space for PWDs to share their experiences, concerns and recommendations for addressing sexual violence. The shared personal experiences and stories of sexual violence highlighted the need for increased awareness and support services. Participants emphasized the importance of accessible and inclusive reporting mechanisms for survivors of sexual violence. The dialogue highlighted the intersectionality of disability and sexual violence with participants stressing the need for tailored support services and advocacy services.

As recommendations we suggest a development of accessible reporting mechanisms for survivors of sexual violence including sign language interpretation and braille materials. There is also need to provide training for service providers, law enforcement and health professionals on supporting PWDs who have experienced sexual violence. Establishment of support groups and counselling services specifically designed for PWDs who have experienced sexual violence.

NEXT STEPS AND CALL TO ACTION

- We will continue to work with PWDs and organizations serving this community to develop and implement the recommendations.
- We invite stakeholders and line ministries to join us in advocating for the rights and dignity of PWDs who have experienced sexual violence
- Advocate for policy changes that promote the rights and dignity of PWDs
- Support organizations working to provide services and advocacy for PWDs

Growing Hope

Sustainable livelihoods through Market Gardening in Kohli Village, Ward 11 Tongogara District

In our ongoing efforts to support sustainable development in rural communities, we are excited to share the success story of KUBATANA COMMUNITY GARDEN in Kohli Village. This project has not only improved food security but also generated income and empowered local farmers. The project has increased access to fresh, nutritious produce enhancing the overall health and well-being of community members. Through training and capacity -building programs, local women have gained access to skills like marketing, ISALS training, food preservation and packaging skills fostering an entrepreneurship culture for sustainability.



kubatana community garden



Beneficiary

SUCCESS STORY

I have seen a significant increase in income since joining KUBATANA COMMUNITY GARDEN. This project has changed my life I can now afford to send my children to school effortlessly, buy them most things they desire.

*Read More on our website
<https://wico.org.zw/>*



Food Preservation & Packaging

● **CALL TO ACTION**

- Support local farmers by considering purchasing their produce from their garden supporting local economic development and sustainable livelihoods
- Partner with us in promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development contributing to a more food secure and prosperous future .