



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST



ANNUAL REPORT

End of Year 2021

.....



CONTENTS PAGE

1. About CYDT.....	01
2. Director's Note	02
3. Chairperson's Note.....	04
4. Zooming into the operational landscape	
Political situation.....	05
5. Economic Environment.....	06
6. Social Environment.....	07
7. Zooming in.... "Our report summary"	08
8. 2021 Flagship achievements.....	09
9. CYDT's niche.....	09
10.Celebrating the milestones.....	10
11.Geographic Coverage.....	11
12.Justification of our programing approach.....	11
13.Strategies of involving youths.....	12
14.Our Flagship Activities.....	12
15.Our 2021 Projects.....	16
16.Collaborations & Partnerships.....	25
17.Lessons learnt.....	25
18.Leveraging on Lessons Learnt.....	25
19.Areas of Comparative Advantage /Good Practices for	
Learning Dealing With The Prevailing Context: Political & Human Rights Trends &	
Implications.	25



Produced by:
Community Youth Development Trust

©Community Youth Development Trust 2021

Address No 4, Rainbow Mall

1st Avenue, Gwanda

Email: cydtmatsouth@gmail.com

Contact No +263-84-2821711



Cydt MatSouth



@CydtMat

www.cydt.co.zw



About CYDT

Community Youth Development Trust is a community based; youth focused non-governmental organisation located in Gwanda. Established 6 years ago, CYDT is concerned with inclusive governance where youth are important and influential stakeholders in decision making spaces. Since establishment, CYDT has been instrumental in advocating for youth participation in local development processes as a way of promoting development that is youth responsive. The organization conducts programs that seek to build the capacity of the youths such that they are able to effectively contribute to the development and governance discourse. Recently, the organization bowed down to the call by women from across the province to consider programming that empowers women as well; hence the slowly introduction of sector programs targeting women in their diversity. Despite being located in Gwanda; the organization works in all districts of Matabeleland South with visible presence through community-based structures.



Director's Note



We ushered in our sixth anniversary in the midst of social and economic ills due to COVID 19 strains. Writing this note to reflect upon another year of work, therefore, cannot be a simple routine. The annual reporting cycle for 2021 ended with the unprecedented chaos where the entire CSOs and CBOs are faced with so much uncertainty over two proposed legislations, the Private Voluntary Organization Amendment Bill and the approved principles aimed at amending the Criminal Law (Codification & Reform) Act that criminalizes citizen's unauthorized negotiations with foreign governments. Consequently, there is a general feeling that the PVO ill poses

a significant risk to civic space and operating environment as it creates wide room for interference in non-state actors work through increase surveillance and monitoring.

On the other hand, the aftermath of health crisis brought by COVID 19 has unpeeled its roots in a national socio-economic order built on exploitation of natural resources, corporate greed and political expediency. Its social consequences are also an indication of how digital technological progress has failed the majority of youth and allowed integrated marginalization of youth, a progress that renders them more vulnerable and susceptible to being used as pawns of violence or as praise singers for politicians.

However, as an organization we embraced a sudden shift from our traditional ways of programing following the ongoing digitalization as a way of minimizing physical interaction. This was practical internal and faced its own share of challenges in communities we work with. The new normal we find ourselves pushed into is unequivocal proof that our efforts to construct a 'just normal' cannot ignore the rise of a post-mechanical, digital society in which corporate power has multiplied infinitely and state actions reflect the panoptic instinct to aggrandize power. Now that we are in a digitalized world, there is need to have the institutions of democracy measuring up to the economic and socio-political challenges of the new technological paradigm nationally so as to allow young people to access critical

services on their fingertips such as voter registration among others.

CYDT view is that, how digital corporations must be governed, how data value can be accessed, how the public sphere can be democratized, and how people-centric governance can be reimagined are vital national questions confronting humanity at this juncture. They have deep implications for human well-being, universal health, economic self-determination, individual liberty, pluralistic sociality, and collaborative civility. The governance of the digital paradigm is core to how hate, or harm will be defined and dealt with through contextual meanings cohering in a new reality. As we are yet to embrace digitalization; BOOOM Cyber Act, with indications of being a thorn in the flesh. In such situations, youths remain hopeless and prayerful.

The terms of the new discourse on digital justice and its institutional organization must construe human freedom as the many rights that make us social, economic, and political citizens, all at once. The pandemic has forced us to embrace the global-local duality intrinsic to our existence. We came to realize that institutional redesign must be alive to this truth, reclaiming data-based cognitive power for a just economy, a diverse public sphere, a radical national constitutionalism, healthy



local markets, and resilient local development. Riding on the existing digital opportunities, the organization has managed to nationalize its programing and had

national stakeholders collaborating in furtherance of youth representation, SRHR Advocacy, accountability in the mining sector and democratic local governance.

Project Name	Funding Partner	Project areas
Promoting positive & constructive youth participation in civic processes in Matabeleland South through capacity strengthening & awareness raising (PCOYP)	CFLI	Mzingwane and Beitbridge
Strengthening youth engagement in local governance to further grassroot development	Diakonia	Bulilima, Gwanda and Mangwe
Entrenching Youth Voice on SRHR	HIVOS	Gwanda, Matobo & Mzingwane
Informal traders	GIZ-AU	Beitbridge
Promoting Access to Justice, Transparency and Accountability	GIZ	Gwanda Mzingwane and Matobo
Enhancing Youth Voice in Governance & Leadership	NED	Beitbridge, Bulilima, Matobo, Gwanda, Mzingwane and Zvishavane
Bridging the gap: Women Realize their Social & Economic Power in mining	PISCCA	Gwanda, Matobo Mzingwane
Bridging young women's political participation gap (2months)	YETT	Beitbridge

This year, we found more reason to celebrate as we managed to lead a CBO movement that is interested in contributing positively in the development of their communities. On top of the asset-based community development programing we adopted in 2020 where we motivate youths and the community to appreciate the capacity they have and the local resources they can use in changing their current state, we have also adopted a three-lens approach to youth participation which informed the combination of a Human Rights Based Approach, Engagement Streams Framework and Appreciative Inquiry as design methods to

achieve intended objectives. Central to this approach was to see youths getting capacitated as direct beneficiaries engaged as partners in local governance and community development processes as well as in advancing their commitment in fostering development and adoption of youth friendly policies that support effective engagement of youth as participants and as decision makers.

However, human right based approach was used to identify and address the needs of young people while placing greater focus on the root causes of systemic marginalization in decision making and leadership hence the



decision to encourage youth to engage parliament in quest for a 30% youth representation at all levels. However, the engagement streams approach assisted the organization to apply multiple citizen

engagement techniques so as to strengthen the traditionally distant relationship that always existed between young people, community leaders, policy makers and duty bearers.

Chairperson's Note



2021 is considered as a bright year for CYDT family and its members as we continue to grow stronger despite the tribulations of the journey walked. This year; CYDT turned 6; of which our 6 years of operation are accredited to the unwavering support from our members, community of Matabeleland South, our stakeholders and partners. Together; we have seen this organization this far, hence we say *"the achievement of an organization are the results of combined efforts"*. Without your support we could not have done it.

2021 marked the 2nd year of embracing the new normal brought by the COVID 19 surge. It is good that CYDT managed to survive the challenges that came with the pandemic. There are times where we felt overwhelmed, but because of the positive insights from all angles we managed to remain focused and resilient. We have

managed to widen our networks and collaborations, hence the evidence of our growth. As CYDT we managed to adopt and embrace new innovative and creative ways of programming to reach our set objectives. As part of the creative programming, we managed to partner with local artists in building awareness and promoting programming that has lasting impact on youths.

As an organization that prioritizes the safety of its project participants and partners, we made sure to adhere to COVID 19 guidelines in conducting our activities which included having limited number of participants, mask wearing and social distancing in all our physical programming spaces. It is also important to note that this year saw the board interacting more with the Parliament of Zimbabwe in our quest to give convincing oral evidence to our petition on the Quota system, seeking 30% youth representation in all sectors.

This petition has brought so much joy to the organization following a report share by parliament. It has been cited in a number of forums by the chairperson of the parliamentary portfolio committee on youth sports and culture that the petition influenced the development of the National Youth Bill, which is a crucial step towards coming up with legal framework that support institutionalization of youth participation and engagement. All these



successes could not have been achieved without your support, let's continue to press on, together we can, together we contribute towards building a responsible young generation, eager to contribute positively to the development of the country and our communities

I might go on and on, sharing our collective successes but allow me to end

here and take this opportunity to wish you a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Chgo!!

Zanele Nyathi

Zooming into the operational landscape

Political situation



The political landscape in the country continues to be taken with mixed feeling, as majority of citizens are of the opinion that the country is faced with a deep regression to authoritarianism following an increase in attempt to minimize civic space especially at a time when the country is introducing a number of laws that are viewed as taking a toll on citizens agency. On the other hand, local level political leaders are already in an electoral mood as they gear up for the campaigning and soliciting for re-election. This has seen a highly contestable political environment where policy makers from local to national level are more concerned of strategically positioning themselves while service delivery left to suffer. There is an increasing outcry on the continued weaponization of the COVID 19 restrictions, where citizens raise concerns

on the selective application of such especial at district level. We noted a number of complaints from within the province, where youths raised concern lack of commitment from the police officers in dealing with COVID 19 violators especially from political circles contrary to presidential orders. Notable, the Gukurahundi national question remained not fully addressed hence becoming a source of conflict while also contributing to escalated mistrust to the 2nd republic by people of Matabeleland.

However, the politics of Zimbabwe takes place in a framework of a constitution that give more power to the elite, which has seen individuals abusing political power knowing that they are protected. Reports on human rights violations perpetrated by the arms of the government were making headlines through out the year, with no arrests being made, proving that we continue to have selective application of justice, a situation that perpetuates inequality and discriminatory leadership.



Economic Environment

We note that COVID 19 is exacerbating long standing structural issues with significant impact on the economy which remains weak despite the predictions by the World bank that Zimbabwe's economy is set to rebound by 2,9% in 2021 after it had suffered a major blow worsened by the pandemic. The ongoing economic situation is a thorn in the flesh to citizens who are failing to manage three meals a day, considering the ever-increasing cost of living. Such occurrences have further increased poverty and inequality levels across the province. At the heart of the collapsing economy, citizens continue to be victims of corruption and extortion especial those in the mining communities. Many youths are feeling the brunt as they are failing to transform their lives through mining despite the province having vast



gold deposit due to increased corruption and exploitation of local resources. The deteriorating economic situation is also a result of the weakening value of money against global currencies, which has seen business communities prefer payments in foreign currency, a situation that has triggered an increase in the prices of goods and services. It is key to note that the ailing economic situation does not only affect citizens' economic and social state but it also forces them to lose interest in civic processes.



Social Environment

A combination of constricted political environment and continued economic challenges plunged the majority of youths in Zimbabwe into social hopelessness, hence a sudden increase in youths who are into substance abuse and commercial sex work across the province. According to reports shared by social workers during our engagements, it has been noted that majority of youths are now into substance abuse as compared to previous periods, a situation that has increased mental health challenges. On the other hand, young people continue to lead a poverty-stricken life, which was made worse by the COVID 19 restrictions and

regulations that saw the informal sector being shut down. There is no sign of hope among many youths despite prospects by the government on economic growth in 2022. 2021, is a year where service delivery marked its deep end, considering the increasing reports on poor water supply in many urban centres, power outages which have become more frequent while high level of food insecurity especially by youth and child headed families continue to be recorded; a situation that contributes to escalated urban and rural poverty. On the other hand, the working class is failing to provide for their extended families due to declining real wages amid high inflation, which might contribute to wider political instability



Zooming in.... *"Our report summary"*



This report gives an outline on CYDT work in 2021. It details CYDT's achievements at the same

time share the challenges met. This shall be a way of demonstrating our commitment towards sharing our work, achievements and struggles with our stakeholders at the same time creating a room to hold us to account a we believe in setting a ground for constructive questioning and guidance.

As an organization centered on youth participation as a fundamental right, we continued providing safe spaces for youth increased participation and engagement with solution holders on issues affecting them socially, economically and political. This has managed to bring a positive note where our leaders at provincial level started to support youths in their quest to participate, engage and influence policies that are responsive to their needs. They came to understand that if youths take active role in defining the kind of services they wish to get, it is within their constitutional rights and within the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that has been reiterated in many other Conventions and Declarations, which Zimbabwe is signatory too.

The report shall also demonstrate that through active participation, young people are empowered to play a vital role in their own development as well as in that of their communities, helping them to learn vital life-skills, develop knowledge on human rights and citizenship and to promote positive civic action. To participate effectively, young people must be given the proper tools such as information and education about and access to their civil rights hence the need for a multi-stakeholder collective approach

It is enticing to share that community leaders from all our project areas have long recognized that young people are a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic growth and technological innovation, hence the creation of spaces for youth to engage and participate even outside CYDT forums. Participation in decision-making is a key priority area of the CYDT agenda which feeds into the thematic of local advocacy



2021 Flagship achievements

- Conducted Youth SRHR Needs Assessment baseline whose findings led to a collective advocacy on SRHR literacy in targeting youths from the marginal communities in 3 districts (Mzingwane, Matobo and Gwanda) and informed collective programming on SRHR awareness and education
- Partnered with ZACC in engaging local miners and documenting their encounter with corruption to inform ZACC action and response
- Conducted research on factors contributing to conflict in Mat South's mineral rich communities, whose findings informed partnerships with ZELA and other local CSOs in trying to create dialogue around the factors raised and bring in relevant players such as NPRC
- Documented community stories on service delivery, corruption in the mining sector and youth participations as a way of giving youths a voice
- Developed internal training/capacity building tools on community mobilization and advocacy, gender equality and women mining rights that were later adopted and used by other local CBOs in training their community structures and members
- Conducted 1st ever youth leadership bootcamp, attended by youth from across the province with a few drawn from Zvishavane. The bootcamp became a space where youths were able to introspect and strategies on their leadership journey
- Successfully engaged parliament on strategies to ensure institutionalization of youth quota, resulting in parliamentary portfolio committee recommending a 25% youth quota and National Youth Bill
- Celebrated our 6th anniversary in style with support from stakeholders and the youths as partners
- Produced a documentary detailing CYDT impact on local governance advocacy since 2018.
- Establishment of Women Miners Association (Gwanda, Mzingwane and Matobo)

CYDT's niche

Our niche and focus remains unique and appealing to the targeted audience. The fact that we engage youths as partners and capacitate them as project beneficiaries, motivate them to own the process and commit to practice what they learnt, which is a right step in the right direction as we continue to emphasize on sustainable programming. We continue to cultivate a culture of youth-adult partnership, in the sense that the two needs to join hands in fostering a space for effective

youth engagement. To date, CYDT prides of reaching out to women miners and working out to women miners and working towards organizing them to formalize their operations, with three groups being in the process of registering as Women Miners Association from Gwanda, Mzingwane and Matobo. The idea is to have the WAMs working together in addressing the challenges they face as women miners at the same time assisting WAMS to provide quality and responsive services to their members.



Celebrating the milestones

Increasingly youth-led and youth focused Community Based Organizations in Zimbabwe are expressing a commitment to incorporating young people into decision-making processes. Often, underpinning this is the notion that incorporating young people's experiences into policy-making while some of them have taken a role of being youth advocates, which is a key structure in lobbying for youth inclusion in local structures. As an organization, we continue providing safe spaces where youths collectively propose on sustainable policy change, that can cause for institutionalization of youth participation.

To date; we have managed to organize youth voices and organize them into a petition and sent to parliament. The petition was well received with the parliament creating platforms from the organization to defend the submissions and further clarify on what they pray for. It was out of such trial and tribulations that we managed to stimulate support from parliamentarians and other stakeholders as shown below.

<https://thestandard.newsday.co.zw/2020/09/13/gwanda-youths-petition-parliament/>
<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/10/mp-pushes-for-50-youth-quota-in-parly/>
<https://www.pressreader.com/zimbabwe/newsday-zimbabwe/20201019/281844351118283>

The organization has also managed to conduct its programing in such a way that promotes local ownership and control of the community programing by the youths. This has been an ingredient and spice of promoting sustainability of the advocacy

work. We have seen youths taking the lead in fostering development and domestication of local youth policies by local authorities where we operate from. We therefore want to pause and celebrate the baby steps we have achieved so far.

To help answer these questions and others, CYDT commissioned research to provide government and community organisations with a framework for youth participation approaches that facilitate the involvement of young people from a range of backgrounds. The report explores the best practices that needs to be adopted so as to ensure that youths are involved, it also shares recommendations to different stakeholders, which have been shared and follow up are continuously made.

The fact that we have managed to believe in ourselves and ensured that all internal trainings are guided by internally developed training manuals, gives us a reason to celebrate as we have managed to increase our intellectual value which marks our 6th anniversary mark. We also managed to host and conduct a youth leadership bootcamp, which was attended by youth who aspire to lead their communities in different portfolios

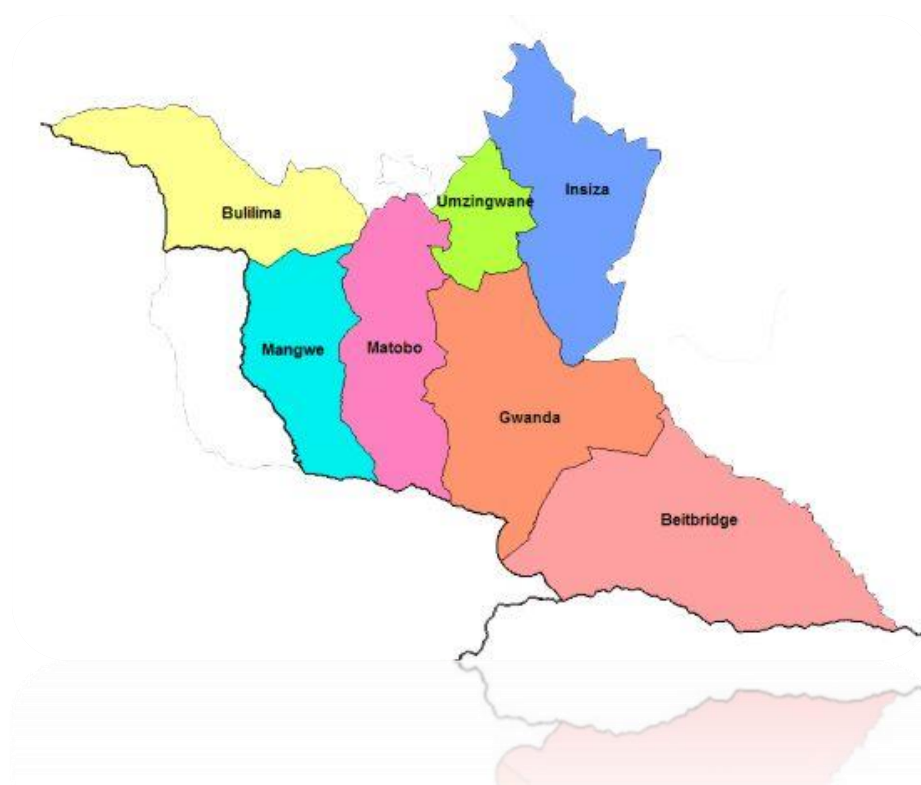
The ability to flag out youth concerns on SRHR through press statements, saved as the best way of nationalizing local youth concerns hence influencing national plans. The fact that we continue providing spaces that give youth a voice, is a cause for celebration of a journey that started 6 years ago and still lives.



Geographic Coverage

CYDT operates in Matabeleland South and currently covers 7 districts namely, Gwanda Central, Gwanda North, Beit Bridge East, Mangwe, Bulilima, Insiza, Mzingwane and Matobo. Establishing work relations with youths in these districts was made easier by

the unwavering support of our numerous development partners who believed in us and saw the hidden potential at the same time we appreciate the support given by local level stakeholders and the youths



Justification of our programing approach

Our programing seeks to involve the youth in sustainable positive development as we believe that youth involvement can benefit organizations and their programs as well as the youth themselves. Through our programing, we came to realize that activities that are developed in partnership with youths are more likely to be effective engaging the population and therefore have a greater impact. Involving youth as partners in making

decisions that affect them increases the likelihood that the decisions will be accepted,

adopted, and become part of their everyday lives. In addition, empowering youth to identify and respond to community needs helps them become empathetic, reflective individuals, setting them on a course to potentially continue this important work in their future. Meaningful youth engagement views youth as equal partners with adults in the decision-making process. Programs and activities are developed **with youth, rather than for youth**. In this kind of equal partnership, both adults and young people need to be fully engaged, open to change in how things are done, and share a unified vision for the partnership.



Strategies of involving youths

There are many ways youth can be involved in organizational or governmental decision-making structures and program development. CYDT involves youth in from the designs stage; which becomes a catalyst for their active role and safeguarding. We have been involving youths when assessing their needs so as to inform responsive programing while prioritizing their needs taking note that young people provide an excellent source of human and social capital within communities. As an organization; we come to realize that involving youths help us in tailor-making our project activities in a way that attract youth attention and entice them to devise plans that have a greater impact in changing their Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP). Age-appropriate programing can only be achieved when working closely with your target population hence the decision by CYDT to have all its projects

informed by the youth needs and gaps identified. This has seen us having activities that are of particular interest to the youths while effectively conveying program content. Tagging our activities in such a way that motivate youths to want to be part of the movement has assisted CYDT to have a wider reach. Our hashtags speak to the youth social life hence they are able to identify with our programing and embrace them such that they sustain them beyond funding. For example, the **#Youth4LocalGovernance**, has been critical in creating a vibrant, active and effective youth who is working towards assisting local authorities to come up with youth responsive service delivery mechanisms, while the **#ZwakalaNtanga** encourage youths to speak up, demand accountability and influence policy change.

Our Flagship Activities

❖ Natural Resource Governance Indaba - Harnessing natural resources for human development

Having noted that the so called 'natural resource curse' continue to take its toll in a province that prides itself for being endowed with mineral resources such as gold and coal among others, informed our stance to convene a Provincial Natural Governance Indaba, drawing our participant from the traditional leaders, elected leaders, parliamentary portfolio committee chairperson on mines and minerals development, Zimbabwe Miners' Federation national representative, women and youth in mining from across the province. The thrust of the meeting was to provide opportunity and platform to miners and local leaders to influence policy framework around natural resource governance as a strategy of addressing some of the pointers picked by the baseline survey on factors contributing to corruption and conflict in the mining

communities. As such, the Indaba became the ideal space contributing towards finding answers to the complexity of the matter, which has contributed to provinces with natural resources leading a very poor life and suffering from underdevelopment. It was unanimously agreed that the answer lies in the many tough and complex policy choice that policymakers have to navigate on the path from natural resource discovery and extraction to human development. Majority of participants lobbied for introduction of local level revenue collection from the Exclusive Prospecting Orders operators who are currently owning 95% of the mining land. They also lobbied for inclusion of traditional leaders; who are the custodian of local land to be involved allocation and vetting of miners in their areas so as to ensure that local applicants are prioritized so as to limit



resource exploitation and promote local development through local resources.

A proposal was made to have a standalone natural governance ministry that will be in charge of thorough mining land audit so as to have proper records and limit double allocation of mining land and corruption. In a nutshell the activity managed to have miners, policy makers and duty bearers having a common understanding and appreciation of issues and agreed to collectively engage the highest authorities on comprehensive policy framework around natural resource governance and management. As the convening organization, CYDT documented communicate and shared with strategic stakeholders and policy makers

for easy follow by and reference point when lobbying. All this is done such that the province come to meet social protection of its citizens. It was unanimously agreed that the discovery of extractive industry translates into more business opportunities and better jobs to the youth and women. Balancing the need for social sector investments with that of other sectors across the economy; being transparent and carefully managing citizen expectations; and adequately distributing benefits both between extractives communities and between current and future generations is what this process aimed at. It was zooming into the future, allowing a discussion that can shape the future of the mining communities.

Youth Leadership Bootcamp

The youth bootcamp for leadership and civic engagement activity was designed to increase young people's leadership qualities and inspire them to assume key leadership roles in their communities. The concept of this activity was derived from the notion that leaders are made not born hence the selection of youths who shared exceptional leadership profile and demonstrated ability to impact their communities. It was an invitation only event for those youth that are interested in taking their leadership to the next level. Special emphasis was on increasing youth representation in strategic leadership and policy making level. The 2-day intensive program enabled young leaders to discover their leadership capabilities and identify their role in agitating for fair youth representation and leadership. Taking note that the previous activities were built on igniting youth's agency to demand inclusion and involvement, this one then focused on modeling youth into

accountable and effective leaders considering that majority of the participants had declared interest of representing their communities in different leadership levels. CYDT believe that all youths should have opportunity for positive

youth development in mastery, belonging and independence. As such, this activity allowed youths to master leadership skills and were encouraged to practice them in their day to day lives. Youths were advised to identify a group of leaders whom they think they belong to; associate with them at the same time learn from them. They were also encouraged to operate independently from CYDT by owning the space as they explore on their leadership journey. Further, youth potential leaders were encouraged to regularly evaluate their journey and take time to celebrate the little achievements for them to find motivation to press on.

❖ Youth SRHR Advocacy & Sensitization

Informed by a Needs Assessment baseline survey commissioned by Community Youth Development Trust (CYDT) in February 2021,

so as to understand the local trends on the access to and availability of Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights services in



Gwanda, Umzingwane and Matobo districts, CYDT in collaboration with stakeholders such as ZNFPC, Ministry of health and other local based organization embarked on sensitization journey which saw a number of activities being conducted with the major one being the Information Kiosk that saw more than 10 organization and 3 government departments participating. Youths expressed appreciation of this advocacy work as it managed to bring SRHR services to their proximity. The advocacy work was mainly led by trained SRHR champions in their respective areas with some launching Drive a Pad Campaign in Gwanda and #EndPeriodPoverty in Matobo respectively. SRHR advocacy and sensitization managed to

mobilized more support from male leaders who saw the need for donating pads to the campaign.

However, this kind of activity managed to give youth a collective voice; to demand HIV services that are responsive to their needs. This came at a time when reports were confirming that new infections are dominate in young people with less education or sensitization on health positive living. This activity also saw the organization taking local SRHR issues to the public domain through press release, a process that led to some stakeholders reaching out soliciting for partnership in advancing youth and adolescent SRHR needs.

❖ Young Women Social Accountability Forums

The ability to observe and analyse the rate of young women effective participation across all projects under implementation, informed sectorial programming where we came to realize the need to maximize on separate platforms where young women meet with their leaders and engage them on service delivery gaps at the same time lobby for gender inclusive services. The idea is to strengthen young women's inclusion in social accountability initiatives in the local governance sector, which started with a process of capacity strengthening such that they engage meaningfully and gain confidence in articulating their issues. Notable, these forums have seen young women developing agency in lobbying for abolishment of some structural and traditional norms that continue to limit them from playing active role in public life hence

the general increase in young women participation in local governance spaces.

Young women are increasingly taking the lead in initiating local level advocacy processes, which prove their assertiveness and commitment in fostering inclusive community development. On the other hand, local authorities are failing to meet the demands of young women due to financial constraints and failure to prioritize developmental project. Despite all these challenges, young women continue to self-organize, mobilize and coordinate activities that they think will better their social being. Majority of their work are on improved access to clean portable water, access to basic health care (maternal) and improved state of shelter and ablution facilities case of Gwanda ward 4.

❖ Publish What You Do Forums

As a way of sustaining a culture of transparency and accountability, which comes through consistent feedback and updates, the organization conducted publish what you do forums in Gwanda, Bulilima and Mangwe where ward councillors and local

authority management got time to interface with the youths and gave feedback on their work plans and projects. This year, these meetings were modelled in such a way that the ward councilor or duty bearer responds to questions from the youths. This was done so



that rights holders get more time to seek clarity and clearly understand what the person is doing towards improving service provision. Interestingly youths were able to bring in solutions to the challenges faced, a process which made duty bearers value engaging youths considering that they were easy to contribute towards the change they want to see. A case in point is the dam that is currently under construction in Gwanda rural where youth offered their services to clear the land and assist in any other way they can. This is one activity that has inspired youths to agitate for transparent and accountable

leadership at local governance level. Through these forums, ward councillors were put on the spotlight to share clarity on certain developmental issues, which not adding up to the youths. Evidence gathered by social accountability champions were used as the basis of holding leaders to account and youth came to realize that research and evidence building is key in any advocacy work. Further, the organization also embraced on **engaging artist to lay the foundation during these meetings**. This was a creative way of unpacking evidence gathered by youths in as far as service delivery is concerned.

❖ Research and documentation

Through out the year, we managed to successfully conduct 2 research which we use to guide and inform our internal and external programming. In February, we managed to conduct a baseline survey as a way of ascertaining SRHR needs for the youths at the same time map the current trends on access to and availability of these services targeting

the Gwanda Central, Gwanda North, Mzingwane and Matobo. We also did a survey that managed to document factors contributing to conflict in mining communities of Matabeleland South. All the research reports were shared with strategic partners, which they embraced as working documents hence inform our collective programming.

❖ Partnership with Zimbabwe Anti- Corruption Commission



Through support from GIZ, we strengthened our partnership with ZACC in the fight against corruption in the mining communities of Mat South. This has seen ZACC getting corruption related cases from the deep end of these mining communities, we continue to trust that miners will be able to get justice on the cases

they have since reported. Through such partnerships, miners have been able to access information on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy at the same time understand how they can leverage on it in their quest to find justice. As an organization whose members are making the mining community, we seek to invest more in promoting transparency, accountability and access to justice to the mining sector so that our members are able to reach their potentials through mining activities. We have also held a number of informative virtual meetings where ZACC assured miners to continue raising alarm on corruption related cases knowing that they will be protected as whistleblowers; now that steps towards their protections have been initiated.

Our 2021 Projects

1.



Strengthening Youth Engagement in Local Governance to Further Grassroot Development

The connection between human rights, youth engagement, participation and development informed the continuous implementation of this project which started in September 2018. The belief that the right to participation in local processes is inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person is entitled to take part, contribute to and engage in local level affairs which are managed by local government structures becomes the pillars of this project. The fact that the country's constitution drives a rights-based agenda that places citizens participation at the centre of transformation and development of their constitution (Chapter 14) makes this project most relevant and timely. As such, this project continues to place young women and men at the centre of service provision in as far as local government is concerned. Youths are now aware of the role of the local government

stakeholders, which makes it easier for them to engage and influence provision of youth friendly services and policies. The project went a long way in creating a responsible young generation that is eager to take part in

the development of their communities and the same time influence local authority processes

such that all development projects are aimed at improving access to quality service delivery.

Topline Achievements

- ❖ Improving engagement between service providers and the youth in Gwanda, Bulilima and Mangwe – Ministry of youth, sports and culture and local authorities are now working
- ❖ Change of attitude by young people characterised by increased interest and participation in decision making spaces.
- ❖ Change of mindset by leaders through opening up spaces of engagement and accommodating youths
- ❖ Change of engagement approach from a confrontational to a dialogic approach by young people which seemed more productive as it forced leaders to listen to them.

- ❖ Pro-activeness by young people through initiating communities in their communities.
- ❖ Improved level of articulation by youths on service delivery issues
- ❖ Increased engagement between power bearers and the youths

- ❖ Enhanced understanding of young women and men on local governance operations, budget processes and social accountability demonstrated by their ability to influence budgetary processes and demand for inclusion of youth friendly budget lines.

2.



Entrenching Youth Voice on SRHR

Community Youth Development Trust in partnership with Young Women's Alliance as co-implementing partner, with funding support from HIVOS implemented an 8-month project on Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health (ASRH) in the 3 districts of Matabeleland South Province namely Gwanda, Matobo and Mzingwane. The prime objective of the project was to promote access and utilization of SRHR services by young women and men. It focused on raising awareness on available ASRH services at the same time educating youths to make informed decisions relating to their bodies. According to information gathered in the Needs Assessment survey, conducted by CYDT in February 2021 that sought to ascertain youths SRHR needs and gaps in their communities; challenges that range from early sexual debuts, abuse, limited access to SRH services including Youth Friendly Corners, teenage pregnancies and

high prevalence of HIV, STIs, lack of youth friendly SRHR policies and AIDS came as tops. As such the project was then tailor-made to respond to the challenges documented. This

then saw the project seeking to empower youths such that they are able to make responsible decisions about their SRH and their bodies, thereby reducing their risk of HIV

infection and be supported appropriately by their communities. This project was implemented within the broader context of the national SRH strategic plan, which saw the organization establishing strategic relations with key stakeholders such as National Aids Council (NAC), Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFP), like-minded CSOs and NGOs. ZNFP and NAC are the SRHR, HIV and AIDS coordinating bodies of the Zimbabwean government hence the need to partner, hold them to account and ensure they adopt recommendations made so as to ensure that the project has many players committing towards its sustainability.



Topline Achievements

- Young people are now able to define their sexuality activities with youths from Matobo having initiated a #EndPeriodPoverty Campaign, while youths in Mzingwane came together and formed what they call sister-sister/brother-brother caucus.
- In Gwanda young women are fronting a Drive Pad Campaign. These young women also have a campaign called #MenEngage&Support. This campaign has seen young man making their monthly obligation to donate a pad to ease stress to the needy.
- 3 SRHR clubs have been established in Gwanda urban and rural spearheaded by youths and are now serving the school community in offering peer education and support and train girls on self-defence skills to evade attempted rape.
- 90 stakeholders (30 in each project area) - are now equipped with relevant information to assist young people conduct local level SRHR advocacy. 47 of them volunteered to become peer educators who are working in both urban and rural communities of Gwanda, Matobo and Mzingwane and share periodic reports with CYDT.

3.



Promoting Access to Justice, Transparency and Accountability

This project started in 2020 and continues to give the organization opportunity to build strong partnerships as we join hands in promoting access to justice and transparency in the mining sector. The project is timely and very relevant as we note that ASMs have been regarded as the major contributors to the

national fiscus hence the need to work with them closely such that they gain courage in defending their operating environment at the same time ensure that they benefit from the

local mining resources. This project incorporated peace building concept upon realizing that there is a lot of conflict in the mining sector, hence the need to have peace

ambassadors at community level who shall be able to identify early warning signs and inform relevant authorities so as to mining cases of murder and high degree injuries.

The project was informed by past experiences and lessons learnt from prior projects hence

the organization saw it prudent to leverage on opportunities brought by GIZ financial support to roll out activities that seek to strengthen social relations through promoting transparency and accountability in the mining sector targeting Gwanda, Matobo and Mzingwane districts. This time around the project focused on giving ZACC and miners opportunity to engage and strategize on how to address local level corruption taking place in identified areas. This comes after realizing that anti-corruption efforts must be inclusive, consultative and stir debate from the downstream, so as to influence an effective bottom-up approach.

Top line achievements

1. Cohesive communities working together to fight corruption – youths, women and community leaders in all project areas are coming together to expose corruption and call for the prioritization of locals when allocating mining land, a process they think will eliminate corruption around issuance of mining claims

2. Strengthened collective and inclusive decision making on local resource
3. governance – after we conducted the natural resource governance indaba, traditional leaders have started lobbying for their inclusion in spaces

where allocation of mining land takes place. This will ensure that community views are well represented and prioritized

4. Lobbying for improved policy framework on natural resource governance at local and national level has started. The good part is that the lobbying is a collective effort with traditional leaders
5. Informed communities and rights holders in the fight against corruption while riding on guidelines shared by the National Anti-Corruption Strategy

4.



Promoting positive & constructive youth participation in civic processes in Matabeleland South through capacity strengthening & awareness raising (PCOYP)

The project seeks to contribute towards strengthening youth capacity such that they are able to influence their inclusion and effective participation in governance and civic

processes. The project came as a response to polarized youth participation spaces hence the need for a neutral space that promote effective youth participation in civic process in



Beitbridge and Mzingwane district. Implementing this project has been made easier by adopting ABCD approach, which is the best approach aimed at promoting sustainable youth development and youth process driven. The idea to adopt this approach came after realizing that youths need to look within for them to be able to define their future and detect the pace of their inclusion and constructive participation in civic and governance spaces. As CYDT we believe that youth can drive the development process themselves by identifying and mobilizing existing assets, but often unrecognized assets. Youths are also considered as untapped assets which communities need to start utilizing them. They need to mobilize them and allow them to explore their strength and capabilities. The project is two months old and is supported by Canadian Funds for Local Initiative (CFLI).

Achievements so far

1. Using a locally designed training resource manual, we have managed to conduct transformational coaching on 47 young women and 23 young men on community mobilization and advocacy
2. We have established spaces for youth inclusive participation on local issues – this we have done by working with ministry of youth in promoting youth inclusion and active participation by capacitating them to stand up and engage
3. Managed to conduct Your Right-Your Voice Conference, where we managed to come up with a policy position paper as a lobbying and advocacy tool.

5.



Fostering Effective Youth Political Participation

This project was inspired by a realization that despite constituting more than half of the country's population; youth representation in policy making level continue to lag behind. This is because young people are seen as lacking necessary skills, knowledge and

energy to engage in active politics and be able to represent their needs either at parliament, local and provincial level. Realizing that the continued exclusion of youth combined with limited educational and



economic opportunities can leave them frustrated and idle, makes this project very relevant and adds value to the 2030 agenda of affirmative action. The fact that young people need real opportunities to participate in political processes and contribute to practical solutions that advance development agenda become the major push for this project which is youth driven and owned considering that its formulation was as a result of data gathered through internal activity evaluation forms.

As such this project is premised on the fact that involving youth in political leadership leads to civic engagement which is broader than political engagement because it can yield service to the community through involvement of youth in key sectors where they have power to cause for services that are youth friendly at the same time demonstrate their willingness and ability to foster progressive communities. Riding on this project, CYDT continue impart leadership and communication skills to those who aspire to take up public offices and leadership. This project has nothing to do with the impending elections but its aim is to produce quality youth leaders who might decide to contest for public office in future. CYDT works with youths across all political parties on this project so as to ensure impartiality and neutrality. Consequently, this project seeks to complement government's efforts towards

improving youth leadership and shall leverage on the already started process of lobbying for a sustainable and substantiated legal framework that support youth representation in public office (Youth Quota), with the trust that legal framework is an enabler and crucial to cultivate a conducive environment that fuel effective and conclusive youth participation.

Top line achievement

- The adoption of an approach that allows youths to widen their peer education and mobilization creates room for expansion as youth have started to expand their reach. They have managed to convince some youth at local level to join as the lobby for increase youth political representation
- Ability by CYDT to engage political parties to consider adopting a Youth Empowerment Framework, is a step in the right direction towards mobilizing support for youth representation
- Motivating youth to be the voice of reason on issues around their representation has received more support from local and national partners hence the increase coordination and mobilization
- The ability to develop reference manual for youths to use .

6.



Promoting social relations with the informal traders in Beitbridge

Recently, we managed to get financial support from GIZ – African Union to work with informal traders operating from Beitbridge border post and stakeholders such as ZIMRA officials and the police both from the state and from the municipality in promoting a fruitful working environment that is characterised with peace and adherence to statutory obligations. Since the project inception we have managed to work with government ministries in Beitbridge such as Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and local government in capacitating informal traders and strategic stakeholders on conflict resolution and management. This is a step towards promoting tolerance among officials and informal traders. The organization shall ensure that platforms for engagement, dialogue and discussion are created as a means of averting conflict that has taken informal traders by storm. We also seek to produce an impact

documentary relating the project journey and the results collectively achieved. Further, the project shall go a long way in empowering female youths and women involved in cross-border trading with knowledge and understanding of their economic and social rights as well as measures they can take to protect themselves. This shall then inform policy advocacy shall be crucial for the creation of an enabling environment for improved cross-border trading.

Achievements so far

Considering that we recently started on the project, we have achieved the following

1. Trained informal traders on conflict resolution and management
2. Established informal traders working groups as a drive to forming an association for project sustainability beyond funding.

7.



Bridging the Gap: Women Realize their Social & Economic Power in Mining

In its quest of promoting a gender responsive mining environment, Community Youth Development Trust recently started on a project, which aims to bridge the inequality gap in the mining sector. The project seeks to afford women in mining an opportunity to further lobby for formalization and legalization of Women artisanal mining association. The project is in line with CYDT broader advocacy on legislative framework that support and protect Artisanal miners and trading in Zimbabwe. It builds on the existing project that seek to Promote Access to Justice and Social Cohesion in the mining communities with bias on combatting corruption that continue to limit miners from realizing their potentials. The overall project goal is to capacitate Women Artisanal Miners Associations (WAMs) such that they are able to provide services to their members in Gwanda, Matobo and Mzingwane districts. This will be done as a way of breaking the existing barriers that continue to push women

artisanal miners to the periphery of defining their destiny and role in the mining sector and limit them from accessing working equipment and financial assistance. As such the project shall contribute towards creating economic empowerment opportunities and employment for women and improve their living standards/livelihoods. The project is supported by French Embassy.

Achievements so far

- Establishment of 3 groups of Women Artisanal Miners Association (Gwanda, Matobo & Mzingwane)
- Trained them on Gender Equality and Mining Rights
- Organize social dialogues meetings where women miners meet with community leaders and duty bearers to present the kind of challenges, they face at the same time driving sustainable solutions.



8.



Bridging Young Women's Civic Participation Gap

CYDT implemented a 3- month project supported by YETT. The project covered Gwanda and Beitbridge respectively. It went a long way in complementing work done by different players in strengthening young women's capacity on issues around civic participation. It was built on section 80 of the constitution which seeks to promote women's urgency and representation in public offices and political spaces through influencing their inclusion. The project was in line with our strategic objectives and mission that seek to increase young women and men's representation and participation in the public life at the same time feeding into YETT's 2nd results-based framework that seeks to promote youths and youth organizations contribution to meaningful socio-economic and political youth empowerment. The

projects acknowledged the progress made in terms of promoting women's involvement and participation in decision making, which is key in promoting gender equality however the fact that young women's inclusion is still lacking dilutes the whole concept hence the project that targets young women and ignite their potential of playing an active and influential role from community to national level.

Achievements so far: trained young women continue to engage offices of influence in seeking their inclusion. Those who aspire to lead their communities have identified partnerships for mentorship and learning. The project was short-lived and we continue to engage the beneficiaries so as to cultivate sustainability



Collaborations & Partnerships

As an organization that believes in the power of collaborations and strategic partnerships, CYDT is increasingly recognizing potential of greater cooperation to achieve positive change and improve the way we approach our work. As such, CYDT has made it a point to find other youth focused organizations operating in Matabeleland South as a way of identifying opportunities of collaborating. The organization is also looking into strategic partnerships with private sector companies so as to build a more strategic approach to

development. However, in all the collaborations we have entered, we have been considering key factors which include but not limited to common objectives or vision, complementary skills, strengths,

opportunities and shared advocacy efforts.

This year we have been implementing activities in partnership with ZACC, Ministry of Youth at district level and other like-minded organizations.

Lessons learnt

- Adequate Policy Framework is panacea to sustained youth participation - CYDT learnt that without the right policies and legal framework mandating institutions to create spaces for youth inclusion, youth participation and representation will be a pipe dream yet to materialize for generations to come. We have realized that local authorities that have youth policies are more receptive in engaging youths as compared to those without
- Adopting programming approaches that promote youth participation both

as beneficiaries and as partners create a sense of ownership among the youth. It makes them identify with the project activities and be able to relate and explore outside the spaces provided, which is key in sustaining such work

- Using different capacity building approaches when working with youths is paramount – both needs based and asset-based approach does wonders in igniting youth potential.

Leveraging on Lessons Learnt

- There is need to continue to champion change through advocacy that starts at local level and attract national attention.
- Continue to lobby for youth friendly policies from local to national level.

- Continue providing safe spaces for youth engagement and participation.
- Use local structures to mobilize more youths for incremental purposes.
- Establish youth movements that support youth empowerment and development.

Areas of Comparative Advantage /Good Practices for Learning Dealing with The Prevailing Context: Political & Human Rights Trends & Implications.

- Create safe space for youth engagement and give them youths autonomy – Involve them

in all internal processes, from activity planning and implementation for this is a sound



- ingredient for ownership and future sustainability.
- Engage rights holders to get to know their priorities and be flexible enough to tweak a bit so that programming remains relevant and address critical community challenges at the same time addressing project objectives. In that way, community groups resonate with CSO work better.
- Transparency and accountability – help rights holders to domesticate organization's expectations.
- Establish and nurture relationship with strategic offices – have side to fall on when the other fails to materialize, identify allies in strategic offices, communities and operating spaces
- Ridding on cooperative partnerships i.e. with organizations that do livelihood component – helped organisation to gain acceptance from youths and community leaders
- Women Empowerment and capacitation- responding to community demand.

.....
THE END.



CYDT PRODUCTION
(C) 2021

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED!



@CydtMat



Cydt MatSouth

www.cydt.co.zw