



Statement :International Women's Day 2022

Murewa- Rozaria Memorial Trust (RMT) joins the world in celebrating International Women's Day. The day is celebrated every year on March 8 across the globe. It is a day to celebrate women's achievements, raise awareness against bias, and take action for equality. Women's Day is observed around the world to honour the social, economic, and cultural achievements of women from all areas of life. The aim is to create a better world in which women's rights are upheld. Understanding the different facets of a woman's life is instrumental in achieving this.

This day is an opportunity for reflection on achievements in women's empowerment and for a call to address the challenges still in place on the way towards achieving gender equality in all aspects of life. Rozaria Memorial Trust places a lot of emphasis on women and girls living in rural marginalized areas.

RMT celebrates all women and girls around the world, in all of their diversity. Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls have long been a part of RMT's work. We launched the Tseketsa kuMwanasikana, the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and we initiated the Nhangwa methodology which is reaching out to more than 2000 girls each year to create environments that help women succeed economically, prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV), foster girls' Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, and ensure women's leadership and meaningful participation in all areas of life.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on women and girls living in rural areas worldwide. Movement has been restricted, social services and resources have become more limited, and households are facing even more pressures. Incidents of GBV, including domestic and intimate partner violence, as well as child, early, and forced marriages have all increased. In the face of COVID-19, unlocking the potential of women has been more important than ever. The economic success of women and girls has a ripple effect that leads to better nutrition and health, expanded access to safe water, and greater resilience.

International Women's Day goes beyond one woman, one day, one community, or one nation. As we look to the future with a renewed sense of commitment, RMT will continue to emphasize that they should exercise their rights fully, use their voices freely, determine their life outcomes, and live their lives free from intimidation, harassment, and violence.

Nyaradzai Gumbonzvanda : RMT Chief Executive Director