



ROZARIA
MEMORIAL TRUST
Creating Opportunities, Unleashing Potential



Rozaria Memorial Trust 2025 Annual Report

"Let us continue to hold hands with women and their communities because community resilience is critical to building our economies and our future." - Dr. Nyaradzai Gumbonzvanda

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Foreword



**Interim Executive Director &
Partnerships Manager
Kudakwashe Stephen Dizha**

As we reflect on 2025, we are inspired by the resilience of the communities we serve especially women and children whose strength continues to drive our efforts. This year, we reaffirmed our commitment to ending gender-based violence (GBV), prioritizing girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and promoting gender equality. The work was inspired by the courage of women and children facing adversity, challenging societal norms, and demanding their rights. Their resilience inspires our dedication to community-led, collective change.

A key achievement was revitalizing community-rooted Nhangas spaces for girls, providing safe platforms to protect against GBV, advance SRHR, and foster leadership. Strengthening these institutions empowers girls to lead change from within their communities.

Throughout the year, the support of Traditional Leaders has been vital in fostering community-led change and shifting social norms on ending GBV, child marriage, and sexual exploitation. We worked closely with government partners, including the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community and Small to Medium Enterprises Development, and the Department of Social Development, to strengthen referral pathways and respond effectively to GBV through our Emergency Shelter, ensuring survivors receive timely and comprehensive support.

Foreword

Our progress was made possible by our funding partners, enabling us to sustain programs and improve infrastructure at the RMT Education and Counselling Centre (RMT ECC), ensuring the delivery of essential services.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to community-centered, feminist programming in rural and marginalised communities across Zimbabwe and beyond. We continue engaging in regional and continental policy processes, including the African Union's efforts to end violence against women and girls. We are also pleased to introduce our RMT Strategic Plan for 2026–2030, which provides a roadmap to advance gender equity, protect women and children, and foster community-led social transformation through innovative, community-focused, and policy-influencing interventions.

In this report, you will find inspiring stories, evidence of our impact, and a shared vision for a future where every girl and woman lives with dignity, safety, and the freedom to realize her potential. We thank our partners, supporters, and communities for being vital collaborators in this journey towards a more just and equitable society.

Together, we can create lasting social change.

Organisational Overview



Key Programs and Initiatives

- Community-Centered Integrated Gender-Based Violence Response and Support
- Nhangas Safe Spaces and Movement Building
- Transforming Lives: Empowering Vulnerable Young Women and Children through Education and Skills Development
- Empowering Rural Women through Livelihoods and Climate-Resilient Development
- Advancing Research, Documentation, and Advocacy on Gender Equity, GBV, and Health Interventions

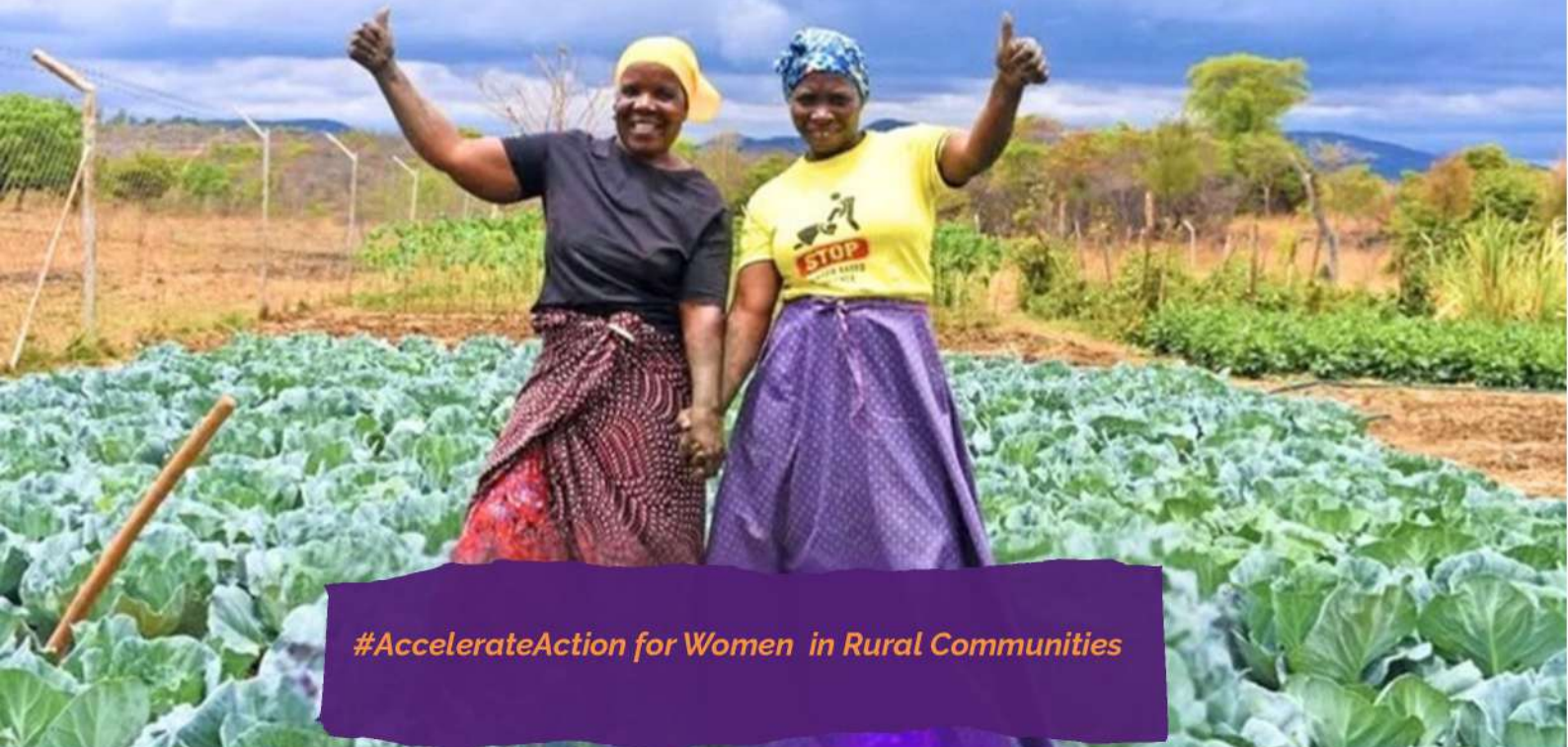
Brief history and milestones

Rozaria Memorial Trust was founded in 2007 by Dr. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda and Ms. Elizabeth Tawonezvi-Dizha to honour and extend the legacy of Mbuya Rozaria, a woman whose life exemplified caring, sharing, and protecting the most vulnerable, especially women and children. Mbuya Rozaria's journey was marked by resilience: she was married as a young girl, raised her children through the hardships of war, and as a widow for 28 years.

She prioritized education for her children and her community, breaking the cycles of poverty for future generations. Despite facing personal challenges, including caring for children with mental health issues and being affected by HIV, she remained actively involved in community development, serving her local church, women's clubs, and other initiatives. Her guiding philosophy, "Life comes from the soil," reflected her belief in hard work and sustainable livelihood through farming. Mbuya Rozaria remains a revered heroine, a role model, and an enduring source of inspiration for all who follow her legacy.

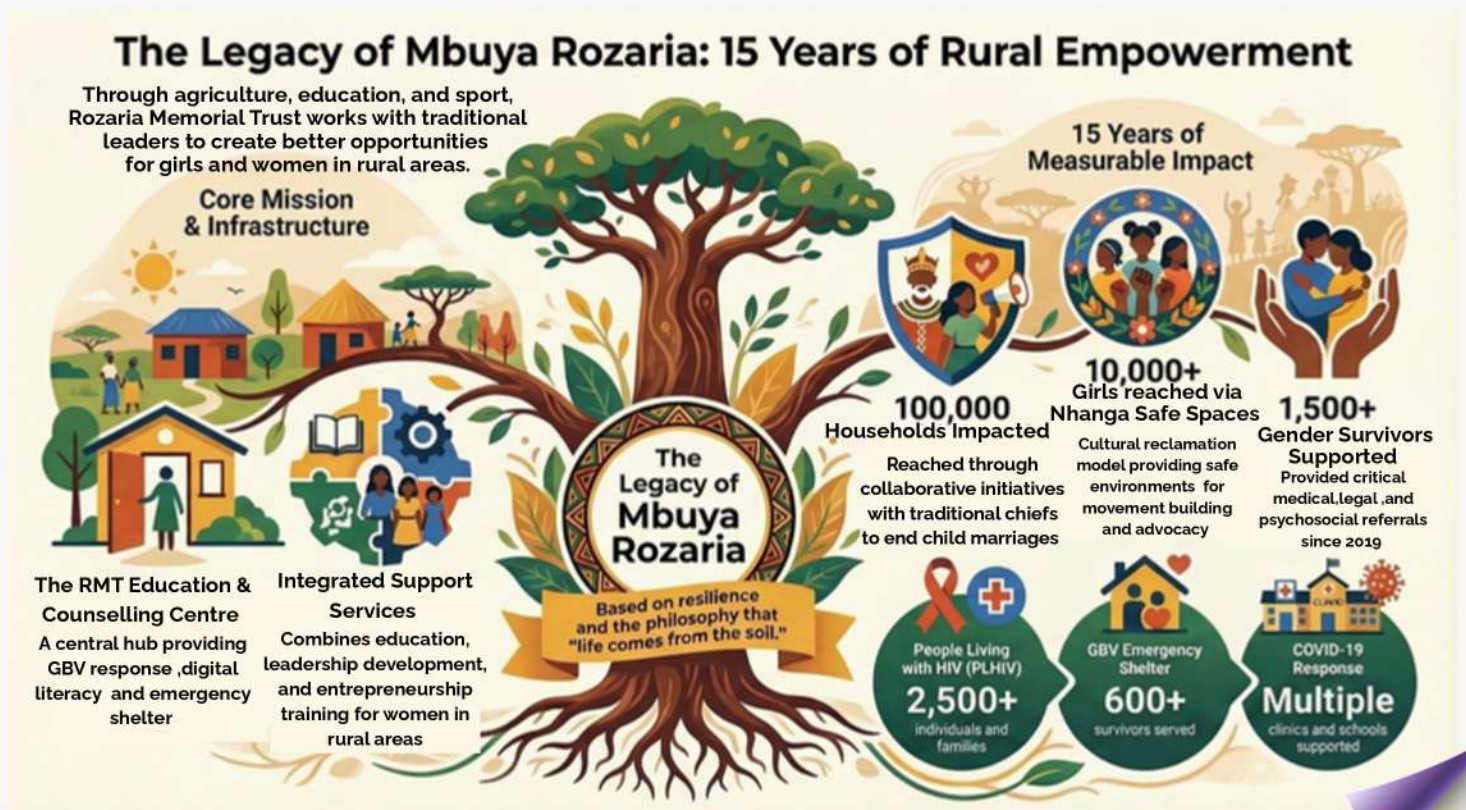
The organization is dedicated to empowering women and children in rural areas, building on her principles and vision to foster sustainable change and support vulnerable populations.

The organization's mission is to support initiatives that promote gender equity, education, health, and entrepreneurship among women and children in marginalized communities. Our headquarters are in Magaya Village, Ward 8, Murewa District, Zimbabwe, where we operate the Rozaria Memorial Trust Education and Counselling Centre (RMT ECC), with an Emergency Shelter, Knowledge Hub, and Nhangwa Safe Space. We actively invest in community development across Mashonaland East and Central provinces and advocate for policy change at the national, regional, and global levels.



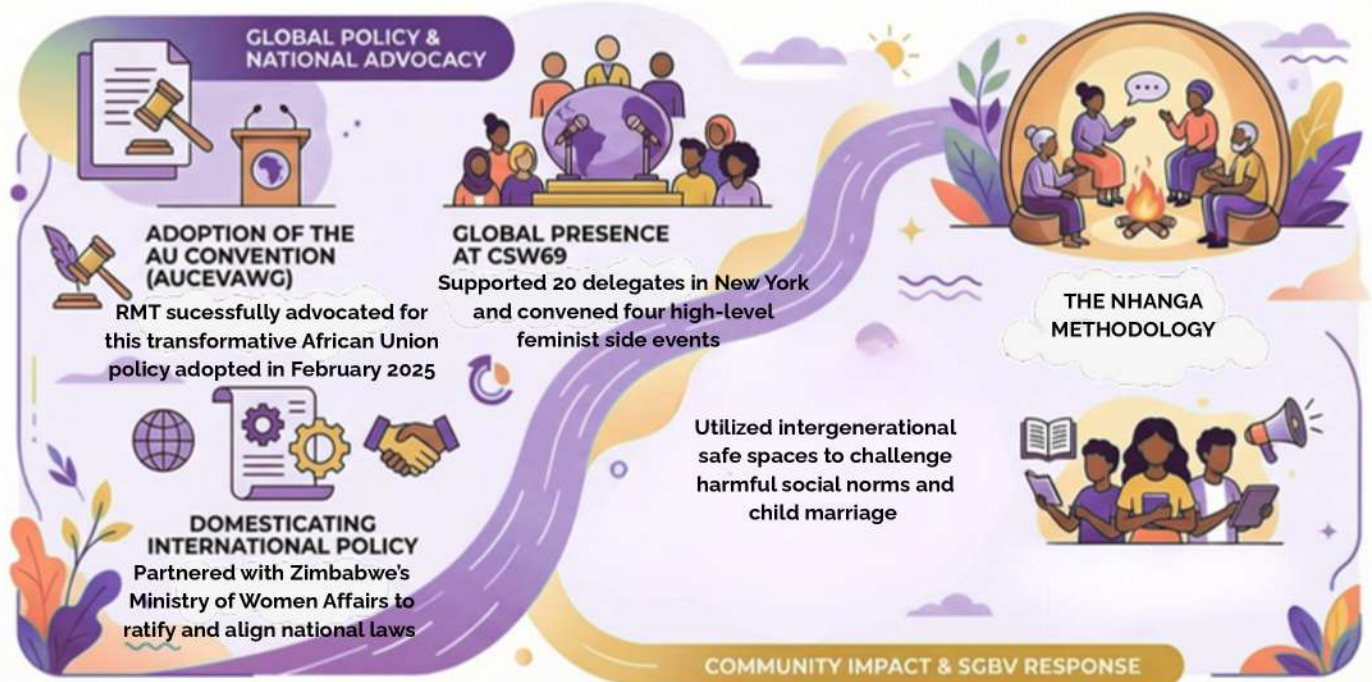
#AccelerateAction for Women in Rural Communities

Our impact over the years



Highlights & Achievements of the year

RMT 2025 PROGRESS: FROM GLOBAL ADVOCACY TO COMMUNITY ACTION



Rozaria Memorial Trust: 2025 Year-End Impact Overview

A visual overview of programmatic outcomes integrating traditional 'Nhangas' safe spaces with modern digital literacy and regional advocacy to end child marriage and support GBV survivors

Community Protection & Culturally Rooted Support

70
Cases handled
Survivors received emergency shelter, psychosocial support, and medical /legal referral services

1240+
Nhangas Safe Space Reach
In country Nhangas 1140+
Regional and Global Nhangas 100+
Culturally rooted dialogues successfully addressed SRHR, digital violence, and child rights in school settings

Program Initiative Reach	
International Day of the Girl Child	200+ Participants
Drug & Substance Awareness	500+ Students
Integrated GBV Case Handling	24 Cases Resolved

Mobilizing Traditional Leadership
Engagement with traditional leaders led to the "Chief's Commitments" to end child marriage

439
Students Empowered via the Feminist Knowledge Hub
Students gained ICT skills alongside training on digital safety and child abuse prevention

Leadership, Advocacy & Digital Innovation

Regional Collaboration Across 5+ Nations
Shared SRHR policy recommendations with representatives from Kenya, Zambia, Uganda, Malawi, and Namibia

Youth Leadership
RMT supported two young girls from Murewa to attend Urithi Dada Leadership Bootcamp in Kenya

Annual Highlights in Pictures:

Snapshots of programme activities, impact, and strategic partnerships

UN Women Executive Board Visit



UN Women Executive Board Touring the Rozaria Memorial Trust Education and Counselling Centre

National Feedback on The AU Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (AU-CEVAWG)



RMT, in partnership with Zimbabwe's Ministry of Women Affairs, held national feedback meetings to validate Zimbabwe's position on the African Union Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (AU-CEVAWG).

Nhanga sessions



Youth and women engaging in Nhanga Dialogues

The Feminist Knowledge Hub



Women and children participating in digital skills training at RMT's Feminist Knowledge Hub

Girls and Goals Soccer Tournament



Rozaria Memorial Trust partnered with the Girls & Goals 1st Girls' Soccer Tournament held in Shamva, Madziva Mine.

Amplify Change Project Launch



RMT, in partnership with the Zimbabwe Association of Community Radio Stations (ZACRAS), launched the Transforming Social Norms and Attitudes to Realise SRHR and Human Dignity for Girls and Young Women in Zimbabwe initiative in Mutoko District.

The 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69)



March 13	WOSCO: Reflecting on Feminist Fellowships Venue: Dag Hammarskjöld Towers Time: 11:00 - 1:00PM NYC Time Rozaria Memorial Trust, WOSCO and Gender Links	
March 13	Young Women Shaping the Future of Gender Equality Venue: Dag Hammarskjöld Towers Time: 2:30 - 5:00PM NYC Time RMT, BreakFree, Plan International, SHER Africa Trust, FAWF and SheLeds	
March 14	Assessing Progress and Implementation of Laws and Policies to End Child Marriages in SADC Venue: Dag Hammarskjöld Towers Time: 2:30 - 5:00PM NYC Time RMT and NGOCC	
March 15	Women's Leadership Roundtable Venue: Dag Hammarskjöld Towers Time: 11:00 - 1:00PM NYC Time	

Rozaria Memorial Trust collaborated with strategic partners at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York to advance gender equality and promote the dignity of women and girls.

Gender Is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) & Urithi Dada leadership Bootcamp in Kenya



Rozaria Memorial Trust (RMT) participated in the 7th GIMAC RECs and Partners Meeting held 7–9 July 2025 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

RMT Centre Infrastructure Development



Key infrastructural improvements included emergency shelter fencing, a water system for the toilets, and the installation of air conditioning.

RMT Social Enterprise Initiatives



Various agricultural activities at RMT

Partnerships and Collaborations

Partnerships and Collaborations in 2025:

Community Institutions: In 2025, we expanded our collaborations with community institutions, including Schools and Traditional Leaders in Murewa and Shamva. A key milestone was signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Magaya Primary and Secondary Schools to enable students to access the Feminist Digital Hub. This supports digital literacy, SRHR, and GBV prevention, fostering sustainable community impact through education.

Government Agencies: Our partnerships with government bodies remained vital. We worked closely with the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community and Small to Medium Enterprises, the Department of Social Development, the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education, and the Ministry of Health and Child Care. Engagement with district offices in Murewa helped in strengthening service delivery in the referral pathway. Notably, at national level, we collaborated with the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community and SMEs to disseminate the AU Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (AU-CEVAWG).

National and Regional Alliances: Our influence was reinforced through active participation in the Women Coalition of Zimbabwe (WCoZ). Regionally, we partnered with Plan International-AULO, SRHR Africa Trust, and FAWE via the Break-Free Consortium. We also built a collaborative relationship with Akili Dada of Kenya, which resulted in RMT having girls' representatives from Nhang'a participating in the Urithi Dada Leadership Bootcamp in Nairobi, Kenya. Additionally, we contributed to platforms like GIMAC, facilitating knowledge exchange on gender equality, SRHR, and GBV prevention.

Research Partnerships: We partnered with King's College London (KCL) to pilot creative arts initiatives aimed at preventing child marriages and exploitation for girls and young women living with disabilities.

Partnerships and Collaborations

Funding and Supporters: We are grateful to our funding partners, including Masana waAfrika, Amplify Change, the Centre for Right Education and Awareness (Kenya), SRHR Africa Trust, HIVOS, and Connect Her. In 2025, Amplify Change onboarded to provide us with a 3-year grant supporting community responses to SGBV. Additionally, we developed a relationship with SIVIO Institute under the We Are One Fund to support GBV responses. We also thank Africa Leadership Academy (ALA) for human resources support, which strengthened our work.

Impact and Future Outlook: These partnerships have been essential in scaling programs, expanding reach, and fostering sustainable community development. We've improved access to inclusive services and advanced gender equality, SRHR, and GBV prevention by leveraging resources and expertise. Moving forward, we will deepen existing collaborations and seek new alliances to promote innovative solutions. Our goal remains to empower rural communities with dignity, resilience, and hope, driving lasting social change.

Governance and Leadership

Governance and Leadership Structure in 2025

RMT is governed by a dedicated Board of Trustees responsible for providing strategic oversight, ensuring organizational accountability, and guiding the realisation of our vision, mission, and strategic objectives. In 2025, the organisation welcomed a new Board comprising eleven (11) members with diverse expertise spanning community development, programme management, finance, and other key sectors. This diversity enhances our capacity to serve our communities effectively and uphold robust governance standards.

The Board operates several functional Sub-Committees to support its oversight functions, including the Finance Committee, Audit and Risk Committee, Human Resources Committee, and Programmes & RMT Centre Committee. These Committees meet periodically between full Board meetings to address specific areas of focus and provide detailed oversight.

The full Board convenes quarterly, ensuring ongoing strategic direction and governance. Between these meetings, the Executive Committee which comprises the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary assumes responsibility for key decision-making and oversight. This committee provides strategic guidance and ensures organizational alignment with its mission and policies. The structure of the Executive Committee in 2025 was as follows:

In 2025, the Executive Structure was as follows:

Role	Name
Chairperson	Pascar Deka
Vice Chairperson	Melissa Ruvimbo Kubvoruno
Secretary	Elizabeth Tawonezvi
Treasurer	Ednah Zinyuku

Governance and Leadership

The day-to-day management is overseen by the Executive Director, who leads a team of dedicated professionals and volunteers. Our staff is organized into four core departments: Programmes, Finance, Operations, and Partnerships & Fundraising. These departments collaborate closely to achieve organisational goals. We place strong emphasis on staff development through ongoing training and capacity-building initiatives to cultivate a motivated, skilled, and effective team.

Senior Leadership Team in 2025

Position	Name
Interim Executive Director & Partnerships Manager	Kudakwashe Stephen Dizha
Programmes Coordinator	Eclipse Ruvimbo Choto
Operations Coordinator	Isaac Deka

This structured approach to governance and leadership underscores RMT's commitment to effective leadership, accountability, and operational excellence in fulfilling our mission.



CONTACT US



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