

## » Welcome

Welcome to the third instalment of the CCMT newsletter. Exciting things have been happening on the interventions front and in the Research and Documentation departments. We hope you enjoy this brief update of what's been happening at CCMT.



Centre for Conflict  
Management and Transformation

## Newsletter

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## » New Director at CCMT



*New CCMT Director: Wonder Phiri*

We bid farewell to our founding Director Mrs Stembile Mpofo and welcomed a new Director Mr. Wonder Phiri. Wonder comes to us with a wealth of experience, having worked in the peace building fraternity over the last 16 years. His main focus over the next four years is to lead CCMT to strategically position itself as an advocacy and peace building organisation that is sensitive to gender and apply a rights based approach to programming.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish both Wonder and Stembile all the very best in their endeavours.

## » Research report

Our latest research report is entitled 'Cultures in Conflict: Challenges of Marriage and Divorce under Zimbabwe's Dual Legal System'. The publication is packaged together with a documentary of detailed interviews with relevant stakeholders and footage of the discussions that took place during the dialogue meetings.

The report gives an account of the perspectives of the people of Chiwundura on Zimbabwe's current legal system which combines the application of Roman Dutch Law and Zimbabwe's Customary Law. It explains the conflicts that arise as a result of the current legal system, particularly in regards to marriage, divorce and inheritance of property. The paper also highlights the recommendations coming from the community members on how the legal system can be adapted to respond to the needs of the people.

To request a copy of the report and documentary, please email [info@ccmt.co.zw](mailto:info@ccmt.co.zw)



Other research publications available for download include the following:

1. Roles and Responsibilities in Rural Local Governance in Zimbabwe: Parallels, Overlaps and Conflict
2. Challenges to Social Service Delivery in Zimbabwe's Resettlement Areas

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# » Community Healing Manual for Zimbabwe Launched



*Manual Launch Event*

As the secretariat and member of the Peace Building Network of Zimbabwe, CCMT participated in a project facilitated by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) to write and compile an eight module publication entitled *Community Healing: A training manual for Zimbabwe*. Twelve organisations took part in three writing workshops, held in Harare over a period of two years. The manual will be used to build the capacity of local actors in the peace building field as well as standardise and strengthen community healing and reconciliation efforts in Zimbabwe.

Since the launch of the manual, the network members have been meeting regularly to strategise on fundraising for the use of the manual. There is an opportunity to train approximately 1000 community mediators in the use of the manual so that they can begin to effectively carry out healing processes within their communities. The training manual can also be used for dialogue engagement and training of those within state institutions.



*Project Officer Margaret Chaikosa (2nd left) during a manual training workshop*



## » Community garden flourishing at Zhaugwe



*Community members viewing gardens*

We consider the Zhaugwe conflict intervention to be one of our success stories. Zhaugwe is situated in a resettlement area and since its inception in 2000 conflict had been rife. Community members had been at logger heads over leadership challenges that were now affecting the running of the local primary school. The community was divided and the pass rate at the school had fallen to 0%.

The intervention ended with a successful resolution to the conflict in 2015. New community leadership was elected and broken relationships were repaired. The pass rate at the school

increased to 38% and community members mobilized resources to put up new classroom blocks.

The Zhaugwe community continues to make great strides towards community cohesion, developing themselves and improving their livelihoods. Following the intervention, a community which was once divided started forming groups to carry out various projects, for example, soap making, fishery and poultry. Most recently, 25 households mobilized themselves to set up a flourishing community garden. The garden is seen as a central place where they meet to discuss issues affecting their community whilst at the same time providing them with income and sustenance. The Zhaugwe community is close to Mapombogwe and Gwenhoro dams which supply water to the Gweru area. The garden is downstream from Mapombongwe and the households that have registered for the garden scheme cleared the bush and built a fence using shrubbery. They share duties to go and fetch the water for their

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garden despite having to walk up a hill carrying buckets on their heads. The carrots and beans that were planted in the first cycle have already been harvested. They are now on their third crop cycle and have planted rape, carrots, onions and maize which they have started to harvest. The crop is so abundant that they are now looking for external markets to sell their produce.

“I am happy for the community as this sort of coming together has never happened before. We are currently trying to link the group up with two organisations that could provide them with the assistance they need. Shurugwi Partners, which looks at the sustainability of projects and making market linkages and Hand in Hand, an organisation providing training in budgeting and book keeping”, said project officer Margaret Chaikosa.

The Zhaugwe group has already held a meeting with Hand in Hand who are now trying to assist them with the sourcing of funds to construct a fence. The group is also seeking funds to install a pump which would mean that they no longer have to fetch water manually from the dam and carry it uphill.

## » The Kushinga School update



*Community members digging soil to be used in brick moulding*

For many years the Kushinga community, located in a resettlement area close to Gweru, could not agree on a site for their secondary school. The wrangles over the location of the school were at times violent and around 900 households were affected by the conflict. However, in 2015 following a sustained dialogue process there was a breakthrough and a school site was finally agreed upon by community members..





*Community member moulding bricks*

We have remained in touch with the Kushinga community ever since the agreement was reached and the conflict effectively ended. Since the site has been agreed upon the community has now embarked on their building project to construct the school. By taking advantage of the government funded 'Food for Work' Programme they were able to mould bricks for the school and have so far moulded 25,000 bricks. They have also recently completed the foundation for the school blocks and have bought some of the building materials with additional funding from the government's School Improvement Grant (SIG). 6 pits have also been dug up for the school's pit latrines. We at CCMT are happy to see the Kushinga community come together and join forces to make the long awaited school a reality.



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## Christmas Closure Dates

Our office closure dates for this festive season are as follows:

Office closes: Friday 16 December 2016  
Reopens: Wednesday 11 January 2017

[info@ccmt.co.zw](mailto:info@ccmt.co.zw)  
[www.ccmt.org.zw](http://www.ccmt.org.zw)

