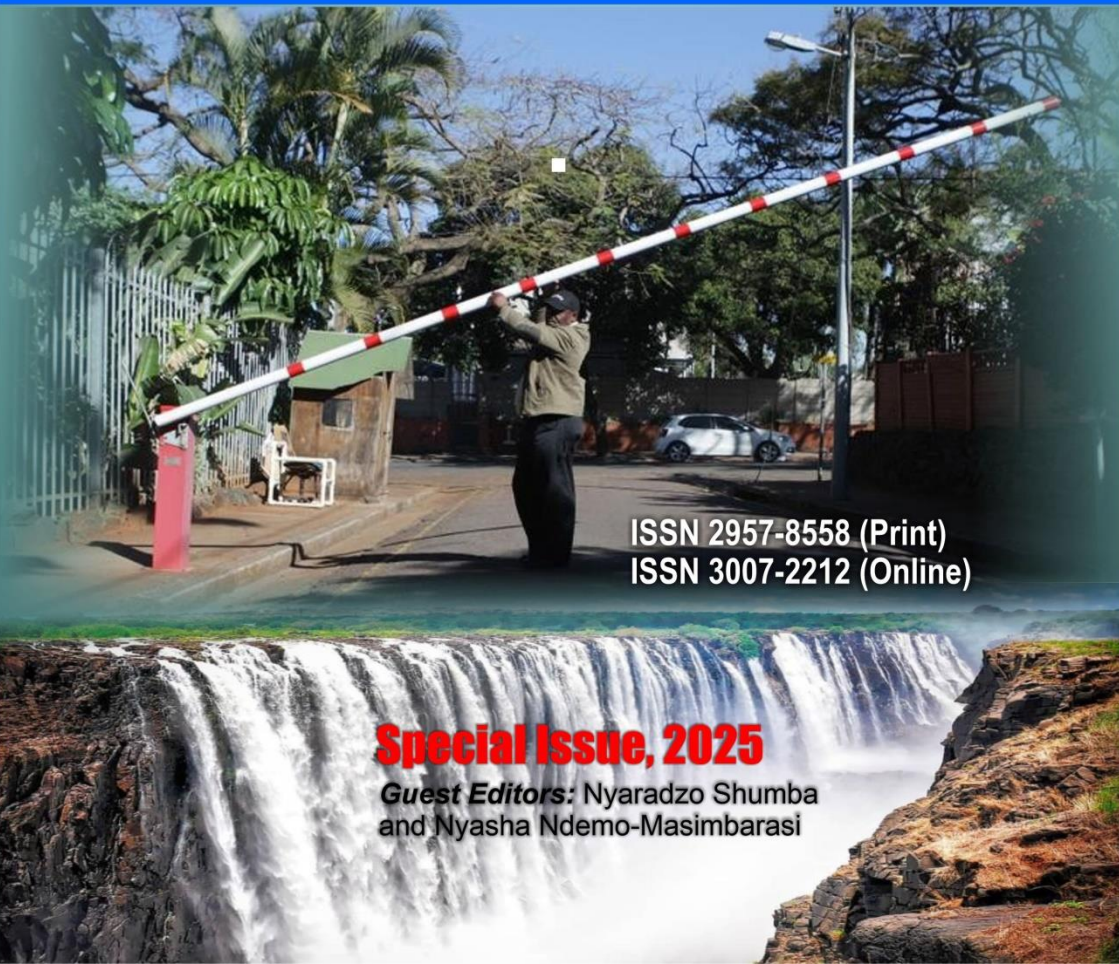




NGENANI

THE ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY JOURNAL
OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIETAL TRANSFORMATION



ISSN 2957-8558 (Print)
ISSN 3007-2212 (Online)

Special Issue, 2025

Guest Editors: Nyaradzo Shumba
and Nyasha Ndemo-Masimbarasi

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Published by the Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University Press
Stand No. 1901 Barrassie Rd,
Off Shamva Road
Box 350
Bindura, Zimbabwe

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Typeset by Divine Graphics
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Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University Press Office
Stand No. 1901 Barrassie Rd,
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Box 350
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Telephone: ++263 8 677 006 136 | +263 779 279 912
E-mail: zegupress@admin.uz.ac.zw
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About the Journal

JOURNAL PURPOSE

The purpose of the *Ngenani - Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University Journal of Community Engagement and Societal Transformation Review and Advancement*, is to provide a forum for community engagement and outreach.

CONTRIBUTION AND READERSHIP

Sociologists, demographers, psychologists, development experts, planners, social workers, social engineers and economists, among others whose focus is on community development.

JOURNAL SPECIFICATIONS

Ngenani - Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University Journal of Community Engagement and Societal Transformation Review and Advancement

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SCOPE AND FOCUS

The journal is a forum for the discussion of ideas, scholarly opinions and case studies of community outreach and engagement. Communities are both defined in terms of people found in a given locale and defined cohorts, like the children, the youth, the elderly and those living with a disability. The strongest view is that getting to know each community or sub-community is a function of their deliberate participation in matters affecting them by the community itself. The journal is produced bi-annually.

Guidelines for Scholars for the Journal

Articles must be original contributions, not previously published and should not be under consideration for publishing elsewhere.

Manuscript Submission: Articles submitted to the *Ngenani - Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University Journal of Community Engagement and Societal Transformation* are reviewed using the double-blind peer review system. The author's name(s) must not be included in the main text or running heads and footers.

A total number of words: 5000-7000 words and set in 12-point font size width with 1.5 line spacing.

Language: British/UK English

Title: must capture the gist and scope of the article

Names of scholars: beginning with the first name and ending with the surname

Affiliation of scholars: must be footnoted, showing the department and institution or organisation.

Abstract: must be 200 words

Keywords: must be five or six containing words that are not in the title

Body: Where the scholars are more than three, use *et al.*,

Italicise *et al.*, *ibid.*, words that are not English, not names of people or organisations, etc. When you use several scholars confirming the same point, state the point and bracket them in one bracket and ascending order of dates and alphabetically separated by semi-colon e.g. (Falkenmark, 1989, 1990; Reddy, 2002; Dagdeviren and Robertson, 2011; Jacobsen *et al.*, 2012).

Referencing Style: Please follow the Harvard referencing style in that:

- In-text, citations should state the author, date and sometimes the page numbers.
- The reference list entered alphabetically, must include all the works cited in the article.

In the reference list, use the following guidelines, religiously:

EDITORIAL NOTE

GUEST EDITORS:

NYARADZO DORCAS SHUMBA¹ AND NYASHA NDEMO-MASIMBARASI²

On 21 November 2024, at the Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University (ZEGU) Harare Campus and also virtually, the Faculty of Heritage, Humanities and Societal Advancement (FHSA) spearheaded a conference under the theme, '*Positioning Gender and Human Rights Ethos into a Heritage Centred Economy*.' The conference brought together experts, policy makers and practitioners from various fields to discuss innovative strategies for integrating gender and human rights into heritage conservation. Through panels, breakaway workshops, and keynote speeches, participants examined the challenges opportunities associated with this integration. The goal was to develop actionable recommendations that can guide future heritage practices and policies, ensuring they are inclusive, equitable and reflective of the diverse cultural landscapes they aim to preserve. The four subthemes included: the endogenous heritage-based economy, rights-based development, gendered economies and gender and sustainability. The articles in this Special Issue speak to these themes. The eleven articles constituting the special issue are outlined as follows:

1. Academic Performance among Girls in Rural Chiredzi District, Zimbabwe: Reasons and Interventions in Addressing Poor Results by Benjamin Moyo and Shepherd Gumbo,
2. A Neglected Crisis: Mental Health and Incarcerated Women in Zimbabwe by Nyaradzo Shumba, Wayne Moyo and Nyasha Ndemo-Masimbarasi,
3. Empowering Women with Disabilities through Sustainable Livelihoods in Zimbabwe by Mufaro Marandure and Farai Chikwature,

¹ Department of Development Programming and Management, Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University, Bindura, Zimbabwe, <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9726-9679>, nyarieshu@gmail.com

² Department of Development Programming and Management, Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University, Bindura, Zimbabwe, <https://orcid.org/0009-0003-1553-4822>, nyashandemo@gmail.com.

4. Challenges Faced by Child Protection Organisations in Combating Girl Child Labour in Zimbabwe by Kudzai Mwapaura and Aminah Michelle Saidi,
5. The Interplay among the Small House African Heritage and Gender Rights for Societal Development by Gerry Mhlanga and Shepherd Gumbo,
6. Addressing Barriers and Creating Opportunities for Women with Disabilities in Gendered Economies: A Case of Masvingo Urban, Zimbabwe by Mercy Ncube, Nyuma Barbra Musakanyi and Margaret Machingambi,
7. Managing the Snatch and Grab 'and Other Crimes in Harare Gardens: The Harare Gardens Crime Elimination Model Founded by Loretta Nyakabwi, Arnold Kamanga, Tanatswa Mhlanga, Shanon Kapingautowa and Enest Takura,
8. Exploring Impact of Mining-induced Displacement on Access to HIVandAIDS Medications among Primary School Learners in Zimbabwe by Songile Mhlanga and Munyaradzi Chidarikire,
9. Women for Livelihoods! Challenges Faced by Women in Agriculture in Rafingora, Mashonaland West Province, Zimbabwe by Lancelot Nyamaka and Nyaradzo Shumba
10. Exploring Rural Women 's Livelihood Resilience Strategies: Impacts of the 2023/2024 El Niño-induced Drought in Zimbabwe: A Case of Mutawatawa in Mashonaland Province, Zimbabwe by Irony Mazuruse, and
11. Trends and Dynamics of Urban Informality in the Global South: Urban Women Refugees and Locals in Harare Compared by Norman Pinduka and Esther Makuyana

The intersection of gender, human rights and heritage is a critical area of focus in contemporary discourse (UN Women, 2024). Historically, heritage conservation has often overlooked the contributions and experiences of marginalised groups, particularly women (Labadi *et al.*, 2021). A growing body of research underscores that the sustainability of these economies is closely tied to inclusive policies that address the systemic inequalities faced by women, marginalised groups, and Indigenous communities (Mukherjee, 2021). Bhatasara (2021) and Mutopo (2011) have also expressed the need for gender equality in

economic policies that is essential to empower women for promoting inclusive and sustainable development. This oversight has led to a heritage narrative that is dominated and reflects the perspectives of dominant social groups thereby perpetuating gender inequalities. Gender-sensitive approaches ensure that women, as primary custodians of cultural heritage, gain equitable access to economic opportunities, decision-making processes, and social protections (Santos and Evans, 2019).

Whittington (2021) argues how the UNESCO Declaration Concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage Article 9 (2003:4) states that, “Cultural Heritage is an important component of cultural identity and of social cohesion, so that its intentional destruction may have adverse consequences on human dignity and on Human Rights”. The recognition of heritage as a human right, as outlined by UNESCO, underscores the importance of inclusive heritage practices that honour the cultural identities and contributions of societal groups. A heritage-centred economy (HCE) leverages cultural and historical assets to drive economic growth and Development. Galluccio and Giambona (2024) have argued that cultural heritage provides positive externalities, enhancing employment and improving economic growth, all while adhering to principles of sustainability. A Heritage centred economy leverages cultural and historical assets to drive economic growth and development (Sustain Europe, 2024)

The theme of the conference. *“Positioning Gender and Human Rights Ethos into a Heritage Centred Economy”* aimed to explore the synergies between gender equality, human rights and heritage conservation. When more women work, economies grow (IMF, 2018). Promoting gender equality in the work environment has a significant positive impact on economic growth, income equality, business performance and social benefits. By positioning gender and human rights at the core of heritage-centred economic strategies, we can foster more inclusive and equitable societies. A human rights framework supports the right to cultural participation, freedom from discrimination, and the preservation of Indigenous identities that are often threatened by the commodification of culture (Ubertazzi, 2020). This approach not only enhances the representation of women and other marginalised

groups in heritage narratives but also promotes sustainable economic development that respects and celebrates cultural diversity.

Welcome to reading the articles presented in this Ngenani 2025 Special Issue!

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