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People4Change Global Platform Zambia

Period One Newsletter



Dear Readers,

Welcome to our periodic newsletter, and thank you for being such a wonderful follower!

In period one, which runs from January to April 2026, a lot happened, from 70 bills in parliament to the high cost of living and the exit of the IMF program from Zambia. Then there was drama surrounding nominations before the general elections that are scheduled for August 13th, such as the saying, "Your name here and on your national ID are not the same; you're Daka Phiri and not Phiri Daka," along with the question, "How can I be bankrupt when I have millions? And your political party is a religious organisation." The drama goes on and on.

However, as Global Platform Zambia, we are excited that during the same period, we also celebrate the courage, innovation, and resilience of young people and the communities we work and share power with across various parts of Zambia, who have refused to accept poverty, exclusion, and climate vulnerability as their destiny. From hosting Hub Convenings to community-led actions and policy demands. These stories remind us that lasting change is possible when communities, young people, and those affected by the issue lead.

This newsletter creates a clarion call to inspire us all to deepen our commitment, strengthen our movements, and boldly champion a more just, democratic, and sustainable Zambia. We wish you a joyful read.

Zikomo.



How Knowledge Creates Solutions and Opportunities

In the dry, drought-prone landscapes of Nalolo District in Zambia, where many young women farmers have been adversely affected by climate change and erratic rainfall patterns, Lizzy Kapui, has found a different path. With support from trainings centred on building climate



resilience and small business management by Mind Shapers Zambia, a youth-led SPAll partner organisation, Lizzy Kapui gained practical skills in water conservation and water harvesting. Today, she uses simple, yet effective techniques to capture rainwater and store it during the rainy season. The stored water allows her to irrigate her garden after the hot and wet season, thereby reducing the risk of crop failure and making farming possible throughout much of the year.

With the reliable water source, she grows bananas alongside tomatoes, onions, and leafy vegetables, maintaining a productive and diverse garden despite the harsh climate. What was once subsistence farming

has become a thriving, market-oriented enterprise that provides a steady income for her household.

Today, the proceeds from her harvest do more than putting food on the table as they aid her in paying college tuition fees for three of her children and creating new opportunities for her family's future. In Nalolo, where youth unemployment and climate shocks once trapped families in poverty, Ms. Kapui is now a living example of resilience owing to the combined efforts of AAZ and its partners.

This story of Lizzy Kapui serves as a demonstration of how the continuous capacity building of rightsholders, through the combined efforts of ActionAid and its partners, has enhanced their abilities to address challenges that are caused by changing climatic conditions. At the same time, her ability to apply the acquired skills and knowledge presents opportunities of creating green jobs in regions that have been devastated by climatic shocks for the longest time. In this regard, attempts to introduce interventions that could lead towards the creation of green jobs could probably lead towards enhanced environmental protection and sustainability, as well as improvements in the livelihoods of rightsholders who mostly reside in the rural areas of Zambia.

When Communities Seek Transformation



With the upcoming General elections in Zambia, the need for continuous voter education remains essential in ensuring that voters elect candidates based on merit. This need, which was identified by Dzuka Choling Youth Zambia (DCZ), led to the implementation of an activity which focused on helping community members understand political manifesto of

political parties and independent candidates who are vying for political positions. The training which took place in Mpulungu, Senga and Mbala districts of northern province targeted young people in the districts coming from both rural and urban areas.

The trainings by DCZ in these districts capacitated young people with the ability to translate political manifestos to community members and help them understand what the candidates were seeking to focus on once given an opportunity to hold office. At the same time, the youth were capacitated with the skills of training community members in the decoding the manifestos of politicians who seek their support in upcoming elections.



The youth in these districts went on to sensitize their community members and held sessions in their respective communities with the larger community members to ensure that all members were well aware of political manifesto of the different political parties and where to find them as well as the implications of those political manifesto.



In Mupata, a community in Mpulungu district, two young women who were trained went on to mobilise members of their community in groups to sensitized them on the need to for them to understand some of the manifestos of the election contenders in their area. The sensitisation also included coverage of what promises would be feasible and impossible for the candidate to achieve. This serves as an excellent example of how young people in communities are now taking lead in closing knowledge gaps within their communities on politics, roles of politicians, and electoral process

A SNIPET ON HUB ACTIVITIES



The Youth Dialogue Programs on SDGs:

A youth-led safe space for governance dialogue, engagement and advocacy.



The Psyche Space:

A safe space for youth to discuss mental wellness and how it translates to community development.



Feminist Friday:

A platform that provides feminists with a safe space for growing the feminists movement in Zambia.

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