in what are now

the independent

Zimbabwe, Zambia

and Malawi to get

states of

a degree.

RE-INDEPENDENCE Zim-

babwe (Southern Rhodesia)

was not favourable for the

black majority when it came

to access to education.

This changed enormously in post-co-

Zimbabwe currently boasts of hav-

Since Independence in 1980 the

ing the highest literacy rate in Africa

thanks to Prsident Mugabe's drive to

number of tertiary institutions in the

country has increased exponentially

and this has seen an increase in the

number of students graduating with

Deputy Minister of Higher and Ter-

tiary Education, Science and Technol-

ogy Development Dr Godfrey Gandawa

says, "The number of universities has

significantly changed from having just

one university to having a total of 15

universities in the country and we have

There are a further five universities

whose Bills are yet to be approved:

the Defence, Pan-African Minerals,

Gwanda, Manicaland and Marondera

educate every Zimbabwean.

diplomas and degrees.

more coming on board."

lonial Zimbabwe with Government

improving access to education for every

Zimbabwean.

Celebrating our education sector

Tafadzwa Kadani

universities. "We want the whole country to be

With only one educated and that every province has its own university so that every citizen university in is catered for, no one should be left out," adds Dr Gandawa. Rhodesia, it was Education is important to equipalmost impossible ping nations with the necessary skills to move forward and improve peoples for the vast standards of living. In 1980, education was declared a majority of blacks

basic human right by President Mugabe.

Dr Gandawa says the fact that President Mugabe was himself a teacher ensured education remained at the centre of Government's development efforts.

"We thank His Excellency for his passion and zeal to see every citizen in the country being educated and we continue to want to imitate his great leadership skills," Dr Gandawa adds.

President Mugabe, who turns 92 this month, continues to be an icon to the nation and the world over for his immense contribution to the growth of education.

Zimbabwe has not only built universities. It has also rolled out many vocational training centers, polytechnics, and teachers colleges.

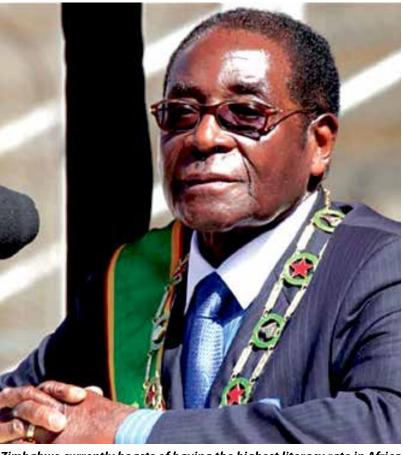
"To date we have 42 vocational training centers, nine polytechnics, two industrial colleges and 15 teachers colleges."

All these institutions help in human capital development that the country needs in order to progress, says Dr Gandawa.

Having an increase in the number of institution for higher learning has not only improved access to education but has also helped address the problem of gender equality in Zimbabwe, having equal opportunities for all.

It is well known that in colonial Zimbabwe education was for the males while the females were relegated to the kitchen but this also has greatly changed, Dr Gandawa explained.

"In teachers' colleges about 55 percent of the students are females and in universities females dominate in the humanities and commercial pro-



Zimbabwe currently boasts of having the highest literacy rate in Africa thanks to Prsident Mugabe's drive to educate every citizen

grammes while more practical programmes are still male-dominated."

He also emphasised that Government and his Ministry are pushing for more women to enroll for practical subjects, making reference to STEM.

"If you have realised, the STEM campaign is more aligned to women and this is meant to encourage young women to take up these subjects and programmes."

Mr Robert Gundani, president of the Zimbabwe Teachers Association, applauds Government for boosting teacher training nationwide.

"Government not only built these colleges but even went on to send some to Cuba to be trained to teach science subjects, that is to be greatly appreciated because we are where we are thanks to those initiatives."

These initiatives by Government have ensured that we have quality teachers in Zimbabwe who are even commended internationally, added Mr Gundani. Mr Gundani said he felt Government

needs to come up with policies that will lure private investments to the education sector to cushion it when it comes to financing the sector.

Dr Gandawa also hailed the role played by organisations such as the Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (Zimche) and the National Manpower Advisory Council (Namaco) in making sure the education in Zimbabwe is relevant.

Mr E T Hamadziripi who is the acting head of the secretariat at Namaco said that the organisation works handin-glove with the ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development to ensure that the students produced are relevant to industry.

He also added that they have established focus groups which consist of industrial experts who then discuss practical issues that will in turn inform curriculum development for colleges and universities.

Dr Gandawa also commended the work done by churches such as the Zimbabwe Assembles of God Africa (Zaoga), Roman Catholic Church (RCC) and Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) in

complementing the efforts by Government to provide education to the nation.

'There are some churches that have built universities and this is very commendable," Dr Gandawa said. "However, I encourage universities to train more of the practical courses such as entrepreneurship so that they produce a wholesome student who will not only look for attachment but will also create employment for himself/herself and also for others in the process."

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Accounts	Economics
Business Studies	Geography

Manuals

History

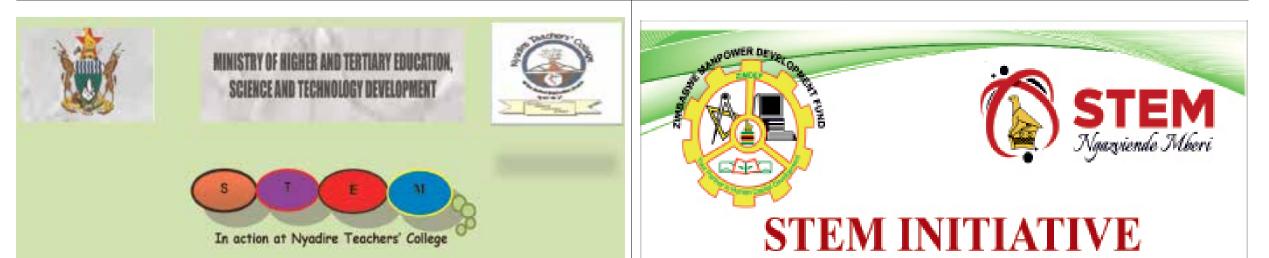
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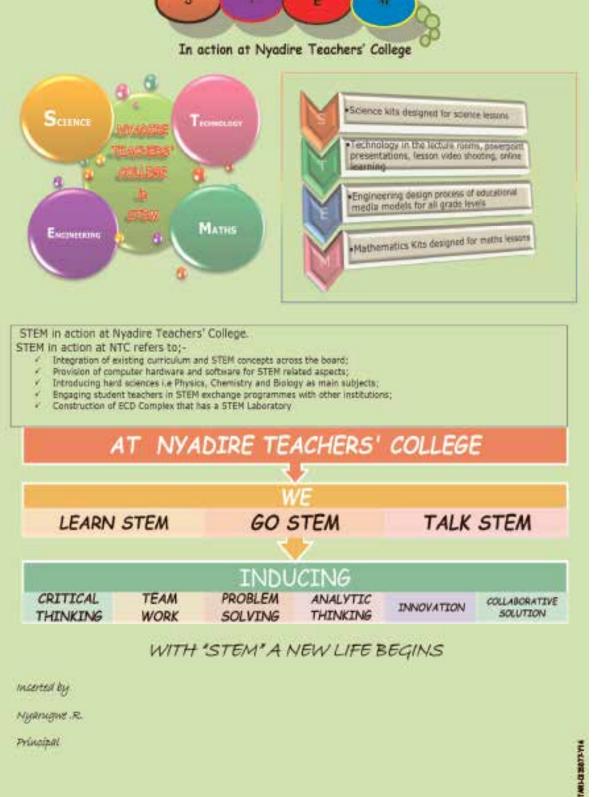
1. Inner City United Methodist Church (Harare Street) 2. Nutoko Centre District Superintendent Offices 3. Nyamuzuwa High School Contact Details : 0772 000024 / 0773 464871/ 0783 138703

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Divinity

Literature in English





The Zimbabwe Manpower Development Fund (ZIMDEF) fully embraces the transformation of the national education system through the deepening of seience, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The world is increasingly becoming fluid, complex, and digitalized, driven by technological creativity and innovation. Today countries compete on the basis of STEM knowledge and skills. With that knowledge, the global community has become a digital village. Young generations must be equipped with 21st Century Skills crucial for industrialization.

Under the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, ZIMDEF mobilises financial resources for skilled human capital development through the 1% Training Levy contributed by employers. ZIMDEF is proud to be associated with the STEM education revolution, a future focused initiative whose aim is to produce a human capital base with the much needed creativity to spur Zimbabwe's industrial growth and development.

We are committed to the STEMATISATION of our education system towards a Knowledge Economy.

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