

#INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD 2021
#IDG21 THEME : DIGITAL GENERATION. OUR GENERATION



MTC Girls Soccer Tournament

Theme: Nothing for girls without the girls:
End Child Marriage NOW !



DATE October 16, 2021 - 8am
VENUE Nhedziwha, Chimanimani
Zimbabwe

In partnership with:



GLOBALTIES > Zimbabwe
EXPAND - YOUR - WORLD



CONCEPT NOTE

22.09.2021



International Day of The Girl Child MTC Soccer
Tournament 2021
Priority Theme: *"Digital generation. Our generation."*
Nothing For Girls Without the Girls. End Child Marriages Now!!
Saturday, 16 October 2021
Nhedziwa, Chimanimani

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Introduction

On the 16th of October 2021, MTC will be hosting the second Girls Soccer Tournament in commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child; the priority theme for this year is “Digital Generation. Our Generation. The International Day of the Girl Child is an annual and internationally recognized observance on October 11 that empowers girls and amplifies their voices. Like its adult version, International Women’s Day celebrated on March 8, International Day of the Girl Child acknowledges the importance, power, and potential of adolescent girls by encouraging the opening up of more opportunities for them. At the same time, this day is designated to eliminate gender-based challenges that little face around the world, including child marriages, poor learning opportunities, violence, and gender-based discrimination. Calling out for the rights of women and girls was first achieved by the Beijing Declaration in 1995 at the World Conference on Women in Beijing. In the history of the world, it was the first-ever blueprint to have identified the need for addressing issues faced by adolescent girls all around the world.

As an organization founded and led by a young woman, MTC Foundation recognizes the unique challenges faced by girls, especially those who are living in rural areas. With specific reference to Manicaland, many girls remain victims of oppressive religious doctrines which often result in child marriages, inter-generational poverty, neglect, exposure to GBV, disease, and misery. MTC Foundation stands alongside all progressive partners pushing for a safer world for all girls. A safer world is one in which all girls have access to education, opportunities for careers as well as equal participation in all activities, including sport. This International Day of the Girl Child MTC Girls Soccer Tournament 2021 is our way of living this truth. As our founder, Maka Chikowero says, “The future is young, the future is bright, and the future is female.”

One of the main pillars of advocacy for MTC is ending child marriage as it is a human rights violation that affects not only the Chimanimani community but the world at large. Goal Five Target 5.3 of the UN SDG goals is to eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation. Today, around 33,000 girls are married off every day around the world. The theme of the MTC girls’ soccer tournament is ***Nothing for Girls Without the Girls. End Child Marriages Now!!*** Deeply entrenched patriarchal systems and cultures that have been passed on for generations have made gender-based discrimination and oppression threateningly common in many households, particularly in developing countries. Child marriage happens as only one of the symptoms of this. International Day of the Girl Child seeks to eliminate the tragic predicaments of vulnerable girls around the world. As part of the IDG 2021, MTC and partners hope to raise awareness on the issue to the Nhedziwa community through sports and also provide a platform for girls to share skills and build confidence.

Justification

Experts agree that sports involvement can potentially offer a wide range of life benefits for girls and women. Sports involvement undoubtedly plays a significant role in promoting the physical and mental well-being of girls and women, fostering opportunities for their leadership and achievement, initiating social inclusion and social integration of girls and women, and challenging gender norms.

The involvement of girls and women in sports programs can have a significant potential contribution to make to development agendas, particularly in the achievement of the fifth goal of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. The participation of women and girls in sport challenges gender-based stereotypes and discrimination, and can therefore be a vehicle to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. In particular, women in sport leadership can shape attitudes towards women's capabilities as leaders and decision-makers, especially in traditionally male domains. Women's involvement in sport can make a significant contribution to public life and community development.

Moreover, many sports programs have taken measures to bring together communities and realize development objectives relating to sexual and reproductive health, access to employment, and peace and reconciliation. For example, these sport and physical activity programs currently run reproductive health education programs, which engage team players and coaches as peer educators who visit local girls' schools and communities and teach students and community members about issues such as safe sex, HIV/AIDS, and pregnancy, rights and child marriages.

Aims & Objectives

- To foster community engagement and building partnership with schools, community, business, and private sector, and individuals around shared objectives of girls' empowerment using sport
- To amplify the message of ending child marriages while leveling the playing field in girls' sports participation in Chimanimani, Zimbabwe, thus Complementing the government's efforts of empowering girls & eliminating ending child marriages.
- To engage local leadership as well as religious leaders from different parts of Chimanimani Rural District in active sport for girls, while commemorating the International Day of the girl child that is celebrated globally.
- To build girls' self-esteem, leadership, teamwork, and life skills for girls living in Chimanimani.

THE TEAMS

- Rowa - Eastville Queens
- Wengezi
- Chiramba
- Nhedziwa MTC Sirens
- Mhandarume
- Bumba

Approach & Event Structure

The event targets to equip and empower participants between the ages of 12-20 and also people from the surrounding community. A holistic approach to promote education & advocate against child marriages through sport is adopted. On the interventions set up, there is a family, the school, the girls in and out of school, and the When a girl participates in a sport she creates social networks, builds mental and emotional health, becomes educated about her rights, and develop tactical and technical sport skills. These assets are building blocks to more confidence and for many, first steps up and out.

The tournament is a commitment to achieving strategic outcomes as well as a celebration of the diversity of culture, sport, and girls. It, therefore, has a balance of sessions that allow everyone to interact and hear each other, as well as events and spaces that enable sharing on a more cultural level.

Football competition: This is the frontrunner of the whole event. It is the crowd-pulling tool that we are using for social change. The teams will compete to find the winner. This will happen during the day on the 16th of October 2021

Plenary sessions: These are centrally held sessions with a panel of expert speakers who will set the context on the theme for that time. Before the tournament starts in the morning we will have local traditional and religious leaders speak and give messages of solidarity advocating for the end of child marriage. In the end, after the final match is played during the prize-giving ceremony there will also be a keynote speech.

Breakaways: During the preliminary stages while there is the main game in play the girls who are resting will be offered short workshops and talks on Child Marriage and SRHR. This will allow for there to be sports as well as critical information dissemination for the girls during the day. There will not be any information sessions during the finals stages.

Tournament trophies & prices

This is a provisional indication of prizes: Prizes will be awarded on an individual basis and on a team basis.

Individual Prizes

- Player of the tournament
- Goalkeeper of the tournament
- Most disciplined player of the tournament
- The top goal scorer of the tournament

Team Prizes

- Soccer balls: At the end of the tournament, each team of 16 girls will be given 2 soccer balls so that they continue playing soccer in their communities. The hope is that as they gather for the soccer practice sessions and games, the conversations on ending child marriages will continue and soccer practices will be moments to keep each other accountable.
- Winners' Shield: Note that the shield is to be defended in upcoming tournaments over a turnaround period of 7 years.
- Winners and the runners-up shall be awarded a medal per player. Winners will walk away with gold medals with runners-up winning silver medals.

Partnerships and Collaboration

- MTC Foundation: this is the host organization and lead planning partner. They will handle on-ground on-ground logistics. MTC Foundation empowers girls and young women living in rural areas of Zimbabwe through education and sport participation.
- Global Ties Zimbabwe: They are a non-profit organization that believes that knowledge, culture, and people-to-people exchanges (both nationally and internationally) are critical for community development. Their founding board is made up of individuals who have done exchange programs in the US such as the Mandela Washington Fellowship – Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) and the Community Solutions Program (CSP). They will use this network to assist in fundraising and making global connections. They will also be a part of the marketing and communication team
- Girls & Goals They work on using sports for social justice especially girls empowerment. The team has experience organizing such an event in previous years and we had thought they can be a part of the technical team looking at the specifics of the game itself
- Rozaria Memorial Trust: they run innovative initiatives that promote health education and entrepreneurship opportunities for women and young people in resource-poor communities. They will lead in the knowledge and advocacy as they are experts in advocating for ending child marriages. Also to support with technical advice and fundraising as they have hosted two successful tournaments in the previous year.
- Youth Vibes Afrika: They are a youth-led organization committed to the empowerment of the youth through ubuntu and positivism #keeptherootsalive #keepthevibeslit. They will lead in communications and marketing pre, during, and after the event.
- VOICE of township girls: they are a community-based charity trust that supports girls through education and sport in Zimbabwe. They use sport mainly soccer volleyball and netball to bring positivity and connect like-minded girls on issues that matter to all. They plan to host a soccer clinic for the host team on Friday before the tournament
- Ministry of Health its sector partners will provide information on sports, health, and wellbeing for kids; menstrual health, and sport as well as first aid facilities during the day.
- The Zimbabwe Football Association (ZIFA) will be approached for support through the provision of match officials and referees, as well as general technical advice as we promote female soccer and talent.
- Individual Zimbabweans and other well-wishers will provide various forms of support through cash or in-kind donations, support to individual teams, coverage of the pretournament and the event itself, providing linkages and networks, and simply cheering on this project.
- Business and private sector organizations will be approached for cash and kind donations in support of this initiative, which could include branding and sponsorship of the event. A package will be developed and shared.
- Media and artists will also be an integral and key partner of our project, as they amplify the messages, profile the girls and provide various products and entertainment around the project and the event.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS

This project is expected to have a high impact and create engagement with the girls, their community, and their parents. The following are the expected key outcomes:

- 118 girls to directly participate in the soccer tournament including in preparations, team Bs and the final players. The girls' overall health will be improved, higher levels of self-esteem and self-confidence, and their life skills enhanced.
- people reached with information on girls in sport and the key messages including the parents and caregivers for the girls, the supporter from family, peers, and school as well as members of the general public.
- Engage adolescent girls, community, local leadership as well as religious leaders from different parts of Chimanimani Rural District in active sport for girls, while celebrating the International Day of the girl child that is celebrated globally.
- To bring front and center adolescent girls' rights including SRHR.
- Spread the message of ending child marriages in Chimanimani and beyond.
- The decline of school dropouts due to early/child marriages in Chimanimani Rural District as well as eliminating cases of teen pregnancies.

For More Information:

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