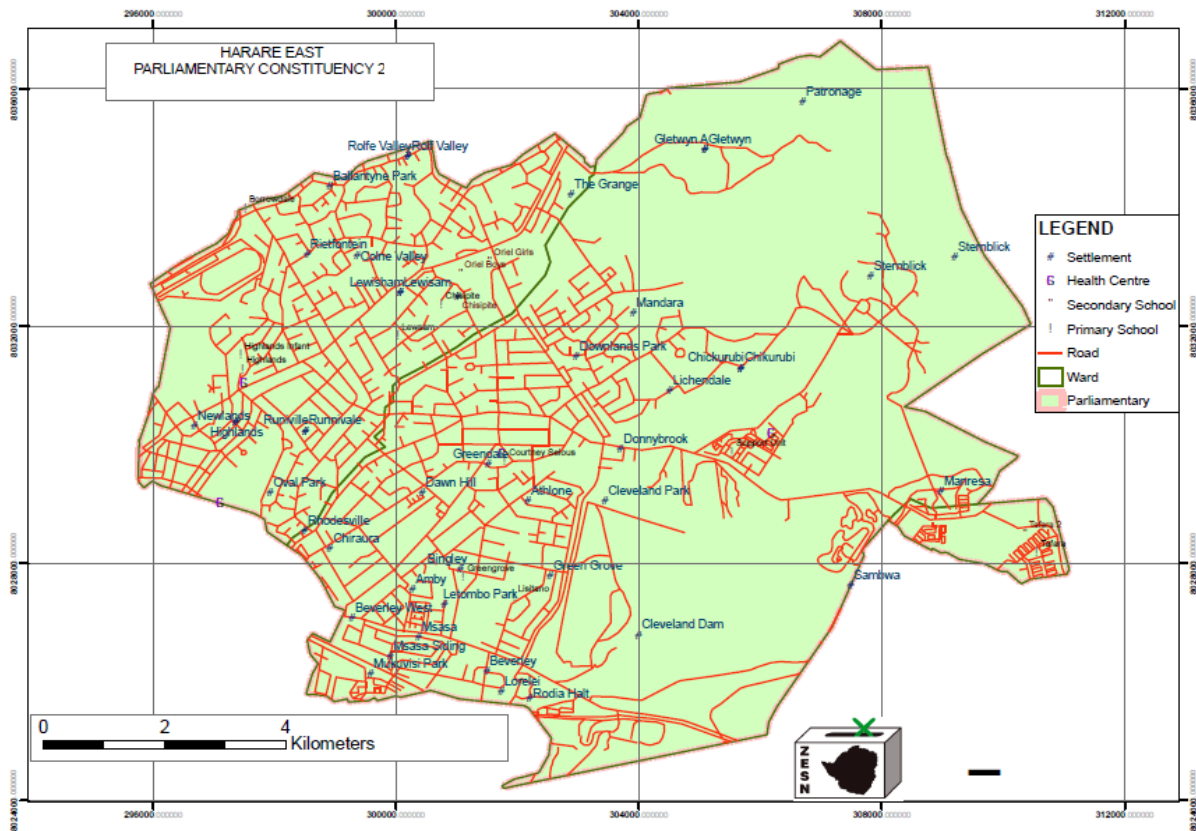


# Zimbabwe Election Support Network



## CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

### *Harare East Constituency*



## Introduction

Comprising of Wards 8, 9 and 46, Harare East Constituency is located in Harare Metropolitan Province. The suburbs constituting the constituency are New Tafara, Glen Lorne, Amby, Athlone, Blantyre, Manresa, Mandara, Chisipite, Brookridge, Greystone Park, Donnybrook, Hogerty Hill, Helensville, Highlands, Kambanji, Letombo, Lewisam, Msasa, Newlands, Rhodesville, Quinington, Umwingsdale and Shawasha Hills. Harare Province was allocated 875 polling stations in the July 31 2013 Harmonised Elections and Harare East had 30 polling stations.

## Previous Election Results

Harare East is a constituency of the House of Assembly of Zimbabwe and is located in Harare Metropolitan Province. It has been represented since 2000 by Tendai Biti, formerly of the MDC T and now one of the leaders of the breakaway MDC-Renewal and United Movement for Democratic Change (UMDC). The constituency voted for MDC since 2000, 2005, 2008 and 2013. In 2000 the MDC obtained the highest number of votes, comparing to 2005, 2008 and 2013. The party had a 13 738 margin of registered votes against the second best candidate of ZANU PF. Support for the MDC T is dwindling, in 2013 the ZANU PF candidate lost by 1 340 votes to the MDC T. From the results table below ZANU PF has gained ground from 2008 to 2013 election.

**Table 1: Previous Election Results for Harare East Constituency**

Year	Candidate	Political Party	Votes
2000	Tendai Laxton Biti	MDC	<b>18,129</b>
	Stalin Maumau	ZANU PF	4,391
	Heneri Dzinotyiwei	ZIP <sup>1</sup>	140

<sup>1</sup> ZIP- Zimbabwe Integrated Programme led by Heneri Dzinotyiwei. Heneri joined the MDC-T in 2006, subsequently winning the Budiro House of Assembly Constituency. He was appointed Minister of Science and Technology in the Government of National Unity (GNU) in 2009.

2005	Tendai Laxton Biti	MDC	<b>9,259</b>
	Muvengwa Mukarati	ZANU-PF	4,363
2008 <sup>2</sup>	Tendai Laxton Biti	MDC-T	<b>8377</b>
	Noah Mangondo	ZANU PF	2587
2013 <sup>3</sup>	Tendai Laxton Biti	MDC-T	<b>9,538</b>
	Stanley Chivige	MDC	761
	Noah Mangondo	ZANU PF	8,190

### **Background and legal framework**

The Harare East by-election will be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2015. The seat fell vacant following the expulsion of the Member of Parliament Tendai Biti from MDC-T, after joining the MDC Renewal and upon formation of the UMD. Biti was amongst the group of 21 MDC Renewal members who were then subsequently recalled from Parliament. According to the Constitution of Zimbabwe, Section 129 (1) (k) the seat of a Member of Parliament becomes vacant if the member ceases to belong to the political party of which he or she was a member when elected to Parliament. In accordance with the Electoral Act, Section 39 (2) the President proclaimed the date of the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 as the date for nomination court and election on the 10th June 2015.

### **Voter Registration and Registered voters**

The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) began voter registration for the by-election from 22 to 28 April 2015. Thirteen static registration centres were established for the purposes of voter registration and inspection of the voters' roll. The ZEC used the 2013 Harmonised Elections

<sup>2</sup> ZESN: 29 March Harmonized Elections Results

<sup>3</sup> [sokwanele.com/zimbabwe-elections/constituency/Harare%20East](http://sokwanele.com/zimbabwe-elections/constituency/Harare%20East)

Voters' roll as the baseline, hence there was no re-registration of those whose names were already appearing in the register.

In 2008, Harare Province had a total of 766 478 registered voters and in 2013 according to the ZEC Harmonised Elections Report, the registered voters increased to 826 274, an increase of 59 796 or 8%. In 2008, the Harare East constituency had a total of 30,132<sup>4</sup> registered voters. Ward 8 had 7958, ward 9 had 17 715 and ward 46, 4 459 registered voters<sup>5</sup>. In June 2013 33 180 voters were on the roll for Harare East. An increase of 3 048 registered voters or 10 %.

### Primary Elections

ZANU PF held primary elections in Harare East on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 in preparation for the by-election. Terrence Mukupe won the ticket to represent the party in the House of Assembly poll however on the technicality of his registration, he was disqualified but both Mukupe and Mavis Gumbo then filed papers on behalf of ZANU PF on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2015. The table shows the candidates who participated in the primary polls.

**Table 2: ZANU PF Primary Elections**

Candidate	Number of Votes
Chris Chuchu	14
Justice Zvandasara	151
Mavis Gumbo	369
Margaret Sithole	20

<sup>4</sup> 2008 ZEC Delimitation Report and ZESN: A Profile of Constituencies; Understanding elections in Zimbabwe

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

Milton Chanaiwa	31
Stanley Mau Mau	111
Terrence Mukupe <sup>6</sup>	651

Source: <http://www.herald.co.zw/zanu-pf-conducts-8-primary-elections/>

### Nomination Process and Contesting Candidates

In view of the By-elections to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2015, the Nomination Court sat on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 from 10am in Harare to consider submissions for Harare East and other House of Assembly constituencies that is, Kuwadzana, Glen View South, Highfield West, Kambuzuma and Dzivarasekwa at Rotten Row Magistrate Courts.

Five candidates will be contesting the by-election, two independent candidates, Transform Zimbabwe and two candidates from ZANU PF. Initially Terrence Mukupe won the party's primary elections but because of his registration status the party resorted to supporting Mavis Gumbo. Terrence approached the courts and Judge Bhunu ruled that this was an internal matter which should be solved in terms of the electoral regulations and the party's Constitution. The Judge ruled that both candidates are declared to be duly nominated since both their papers submitted at the nomination court were in order<sup>7</sup>.

**Table 3: Contesting candidates**

Constituency	Party Name	Candidate	Gender
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<sup>6</sup> Terrence Mukupe won the Primary election however because of certain surrounding his registration status ZANU PF, initially withdrew support to him, in favour of Mavis Gumbo.

<sup>7</sup> ZANU PF vs. ZANU PF for Harare East, The Herald 7 May 2015 available at < <http://www.herald.co.zw/zanu-pf-vs-zanu-pf-for-harare-east-seat/>>

<b>HARARE EAST</b>	Independent	Farai Kuvheya	M
	Independent	Misheck Mushawetu	M
	Transform Zimbabwe	Dale Dore	M
	ZANU PF	Mavis Gumbo	F
	ZANU PF	Terrence Mukupe	M

### **Voter Education**

ZEC is currently engaged in voter education which is an essential and indisputable exercise. Voter education will run in phases; pre nomination voter education, voter registration and inspection, and voter education for polling.

### **Conclusion**

ZESN greatly emboldens political parties, the independent candidates and supporters to observe the law in their conduct and further implores the ZEC to continue providing the voters' roll to the candidates and interested parties on a timely fashion, and the government of Zimbabwe to expeditiously align the electoral laws to the Constitution so as to avoid the electoral disputes that might compromise the conduct of the election and outcome. ZESN also calls upon political parties to entrench intra party democracy.