

1. **RADIO TOPIC 1:** INTRODUCTION TO 'COVID-19 – TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT IT' PROGRAMMES

Start with playing 'COVID-19 – Together we can beat it' song.

Welcome to the first in our series of 'COVID-19 – Together we can beat it' radio programmes for youth and families. These programmes will tell you, our listeners, all about the Coronavirus and the COVID-19 disease which it causes.

Use this information to stay safe and healthy. Protect yourselves and your families from infection caused by this dangerous virus, which has rapidly spread across the world and is now in our country.

Over the next 7 weeks, you will learn more about COVID-19 as we explain our 'Five Golden Rules', which will help to keep you safe and healthy, if you follow them.

Every week, a health specialist and young person will join me. Make sure that you are part of our conversation. Phone us on XXXXXXXX or send a WhatsApp or SMS message to XXXX. Ask the questions that worry you, and share with us how this is pandemic affects you.

Next week, our programme will focus on COVID-19. We will look at what the disease is and how the Coronavirus which causes it spreads. Over the five weeks after that, we will examine each of the FIVE GOLDEN RULES for protecting yourself against infection. The week after that, we will talk about the importance of fresh air and open spaces in preventing the spread of the virus.

Later in the series, we will also talk about the many other ways in which COVID-19 has affected families, children and young people.

It is your programme. Tell us what you want to talk about. School closures, the spread of myths and false news, the safety of girls and women, hunger and difficulties accessing health services?

These 'COVID-19 – Together we can beat it' programmes strengthen Zimbabwe's and the Southern African Development Community's (SADC's) emergency response to the pandemic.

It forms part of the FutureLife-Now! programme, a SADC initiative that supports the health and well-being of young people as our country's leaders, today and into the future. FutureLife-Now! is implemented by Zimbabwe's Ministry of Education, with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and technical assistance from MIET Africa, a regional NGO supporting the education and development of children and youth.

I'm joined today by XXXX, Chairperson of the FutureLife-Now! Steering Committee (adapt to what's appropriate), and by Edgar Mubvuma, who leads the MIET Africa team in Zimbabwe.

POTENTIAL QUESTIONS TO PANELLISTS/LISTENERS:

- Give us your perspective on the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is affecting your work and communities in Zimbabwe?
- What do you believe are important topics, which must we discuss in this series?