

Trends of politically motivated human rights violations (January-December 2012)

In January 2012, Heal Zimbabwe Trust embarked on an exercise to collect, analyse and verify cases of politically motivated violence and other human rights violations that threatened or derail peace building and national healing initiatives across the country. On a weekly basis, through its community structures, the organization compiled all incidences of political violence in a bid to inform stakeholders within and outside the concerned communities on violations that occurred. In the course of the year, Heal Zimbabwe issued a half year trend analysis report on politically motivated human rights violations. This report is therefore an overall analysis of the political atmosphere with regard to all forms of politically motivated violence. This is an analysis of the weekly alert system that Heal Zimbabwe produced between January and December 2012.

In the year 2012, Manicaland and Masvingo provinces recorded the highest cases of politically motivated violence while Mashonaland West, Harare and Matabeleland provinces recorded the least cases for the year. The most common forms of politically motivated human rights violations in the period under review were intimidation, harassment and assault. The parties involved in most cases were MDC T and ZANU PF members. The 2008 political violence that left close to 300 people dead and thousands displaced was in the period under review used as a tool for continued intimidation. A number of communities reported that those who are responsible for the intimidation taking place continue to tell the targeted victims that a repeat of what happened in 2008 or worse victimization can happen to anyone perceived to be "hard headed" and not prepared to "repent". Cases of politicisation of food aid distribution exercises and other Government support programmes in drought prone areas have been recorded every month especially in Zaka, Buhera and Muzarabani. Political power struggles are then used to influence who gets the handouts and in some cases Non Governmental Organizations who would have donated these handouts are not aware of the underlying politicking that happens in beneficiary selection and assume all is well. Traditional leaders particularly village headmen and village heads have played significant roles in the manipulation of food aid and other forms of support.

Areas Covered by the report- **Mashonaland Central-** Chaona, Mt Darwin, Mazowe, Chiweshe, Muzarabani, **Manicaland-** Mutasa, Makoni, Buhera, Nyanga, **Mashonaland East-** Mutoko, Hwedza, Murehwa, Mudzi, **Matabeleland-** Bulawayo, **Midlands-** Gokwe, Kwekwe, Sanyati, **Masvingo-** Mwenezi, Zaka, Gutu, **Mashonaland West-** Hurungwe, **Harare-** Mbare, Epworth, Chitungwiza.

A total of 23 districts from eight provinces were covered between the period- January- December 2012

Province and District	Number of violations	Nature of human rights violations	Reported cases to the police	Names and positions of perpetrators	Names of food aid violators
Manicaland- Mutasa	3	Assault, intimidation, torture	2	Margret Ticharima (ZANU PF member), Soldiers	
Makoni	2	Arson, intimidation and harassment.	2	ZANU PF supporters- Joshua Kadungure, Gilbert Kadungure, Dennis Kadungure, Soldiers	
Buhera Central	3	Unfair distribution of food aid, assault, intimidation.	3	Honoured Ndawana, war veterans, Joshua Chipedzi (war veteran), ZANU PF youths	Former ZANU PF councillor- Mr Tavengwa, ZANU PF councillors
Nyanga	4	Intimidation, assault, unfair distribution of food aid, disruption of rallies.	1	ZANU PF supporters ,war veteran Morgan Makaza, ZANU PF youths	Morgan Makaza, Mr Mupata, unnamed former member of the army.
Buhera South	2	Disruption of rallies, unfair distribution of food aid.		ZANU PF youths	Joseph Chinotimba (ZANU PF District Coordinating Committee Chairman)
Mashonaland East- Mutoko	3	Intimidation, disruption of rallies, unfair distribution of	1	Assistant Commissioner Everisto Pfumvuti, members of the police,	ZANU PF councillors

		food aid		soldiers	
Hwedza	3	Intimidation, unfair distribution of food aid, disruption of rallies.	1	Mr Chamva (ZANU PF), war veterans, ZANU PF district chairpersons, Chief Kuwandika	ZANU PF councillors, Chief Kuwandika, ZANU PF district chairpersons.
Murehwa	1	Intimidation and harassment		Sergeant Nyabadza (head of PISI and also a ZANU PF aspiring MP)	
Mudzi	4	Murder, assault, harassment and intimidation	2	ZANU PF Member of Parliament- Newton Kachepa. Police inspector- Mr Magodo, Lovemore Chirapu, ZANU PF activists	
Matebeleland- Bulawayo	2	Intimidation, unlawful detention	1	Members of the police	
Masvingo –Gutu West	3	Intimidation and harassment, arson, unfair distribution of food aid	1	ZANU PF activists	Village heads (aligned to ZANU PF)
Gutu Central	3	Disruption of rallies, intimidation, unfair distribution of food aid		Chief Mupata, ZANU PF youths	Chief Mupata
Gutu North	1	Disruption of rallies		Members of the police	
Zaka West	4	Disruption of rallies, intimidation and harassment, assault, unfair distribution of food aid.	1	ZANU PF activists- Faustino Murambatsvina, Joseph Chimunda, Ester Bonzo, Hilda Zvada, Bernard Masavele	ZANU PF officials

Zaka Central	5	Unfair distribution of food aid, intimidation, arson, assault, land seizure.	4	ZANU PF activists -Daniel Mativenga, Cephas Ganyata, Mr Chakona, Mr Masese, Zakia Musengi, Harrison, Prosper Tapera,Unganai Makani, members of the police.	ZANU PF activists
Mwenezi	1	Intimidation and harassment.		ZANU PF activists	
Zaka East	2	Intimidation, arson	1	ZANU PF supporters- John Chabu, Osie Mashingaidze, traditional leaders.	
Zaka North	2	Intimidation and harassment, assault	1	Mr Mada -war veteran, ZANU PF activists	
Mashonaland Central -Muzarabani	3	Intimidation and harassment, confiscation of property, unfair distribution of food aid.	2	ZANU PF members, Senator Junior Manyeruke, Chief Kasekete, ZANU PF youths	Mr G. Bumhira, a ZANU PF supporter and also village head, Mr Pfoto (ZANU PF councillor), Mr Faiton (ZANU PF district chairman), Mr Isaac Mupeyami, a village head, ZANU PF MP. Luke Mushowe, E Dzova, a headman, John Deere, Taurai Macherengi, Muswera, a headman

Mazowe	1	Intimidation		ZANU PF youths	
Chaona	1	Intimidation and harassment		ZANU PF members	
Mt Darwin	1	Intimidation		ZANU PF members	
Mashonaland West-Hurungwe	1	Intra- party violence	1	MDC Supporters, MDC MP-Severino Tall Chambati.	
Midlands-Gokwe	3	Intimidation and harassment, unfair distribution of food aid, land seizure.		ZANU PF members, Headman Nembudziya, Mrs Mugabe-ZANU PF councillor, Mr Chakabveyo-ZANU PF councillor.	Headman Nembudziya, ZANU PF officials
Kwekwe	4	Assault, unlawful detention, intimidation, intra party violence	1	Members of the police, Owen Ncube- ZANU PF provincial secretary, ZANU PF youths	
Sanyati	1	Disruption of rallies		ZANU PF supporters	
Harare- Epworth and Mbare	2	Harassment, intimidation, assault		ZANU PF supporters	
Harare-Chitungwiza	2	Assault, disruption of political party activities	1	ZANU PF supporters	

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An analysis into the Trends and Nature of Violence

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From the findings of the report, one can note that ZANU PF activists have been implicated in most cases as the perpetrators of human

rights violations in Zimbabwe in the period January- December 2012. This comes against a backdrop of incessant calls for peace by President Mugabe who on several occasions has called on for the promotion of peace, tolerance and stability in the country but the contract is what is being recorded on the ground. The failure by Zimbabweans specifically by ZANU PF supporters to end violence shows that either the leadership's call for an end to violence is either "cosmetic talk" or the supporters are simply not listening to their leadership, the latter being unlikely.

It is also quite saddening that people in various levels of institutional authority have been involved in committing a number of human rights violations. Members of the police and army have been singled out in a number of cases as spearheading political violence on innocent civilians and members of political parties. The police are often accused of selective application of the law where they intentionally do not arrest perpetrators of political violence. This has led to many victims resorting to not reporting their cases to the police as no action is taken by the police after making the reports. Those aspiring for political posts who are former members of the security force are alleged to be intimidating community members. One case in point is that of Assistant Commissioner of the police, Everisto Pfumvuti of Mutoko who is terrorising villagers, forcing them to vote for ZANU PF in the upcoming elections. Unlawful detention of political activists continue to be reported in a number of provinces. Soldiers based in rural areas are alleged to be harassing and intimidating villagers into supporting ZANU PF.

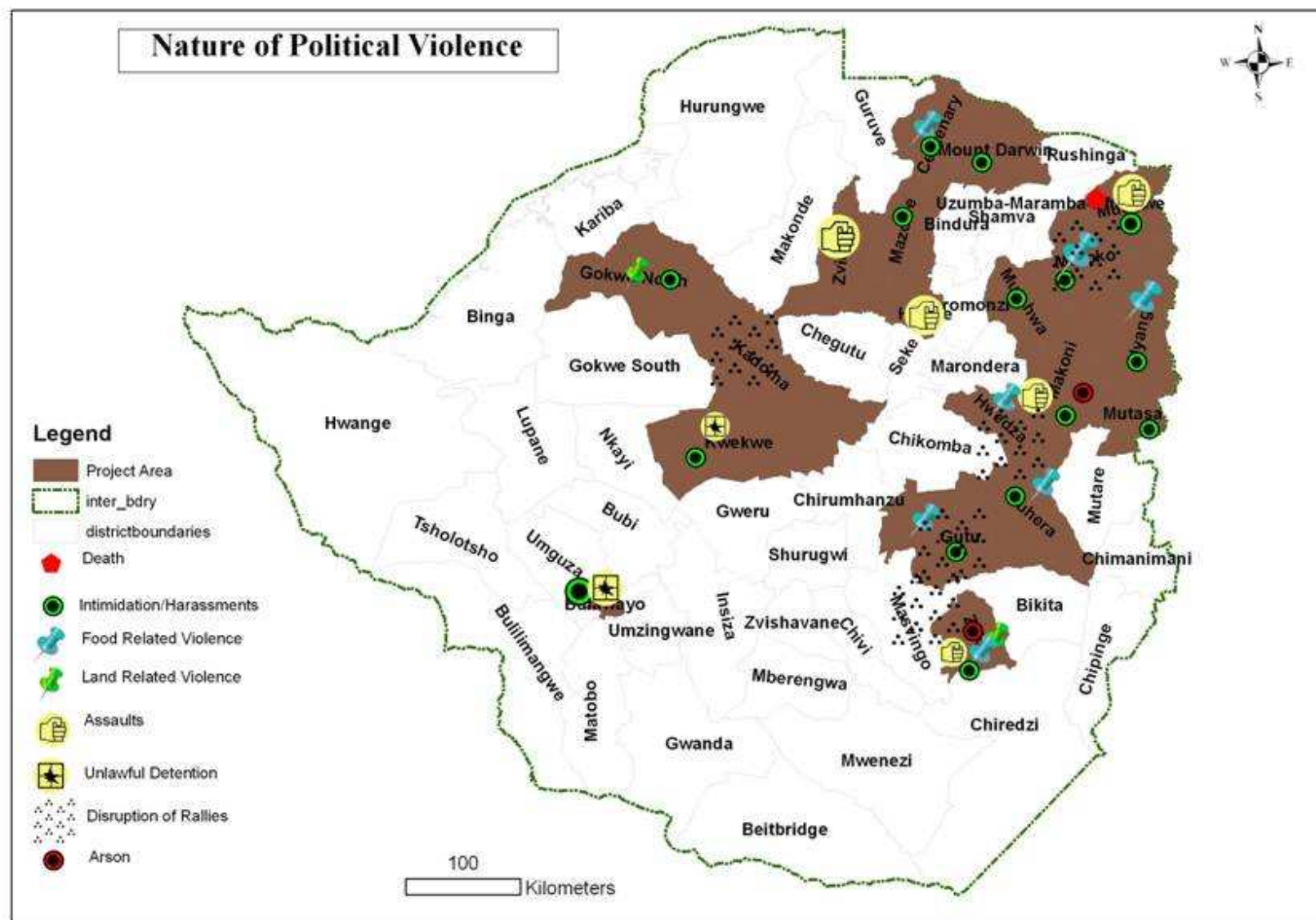
Another form of human rights violations that has become rampant in communities is the unfair distribution of food aid. This is rampant in areas that recorded poor rains resulting in poor harvests. The food distribution exercise mainly from Government and Donors has thus become a tool used to frustrate ZANU PF opponents given the vulnerability of the rural populace. Equally linked to food aid are Government agricultural inputs which are also being disbursed in a partisan manner. A number of people have reported that they have failed to benefit from schemes such as the Presidential inputs scheme as well as the Grain loan scheme on political grounds. A considerable number of ZANU PF officials have publicly declared that the agricultural inputs scheme is solely meant for ZANU PF supporters since it was launched by their President.

Cases of intimidation have also been recorded throughout the year and across a number of provinces as a strategy that is being used to send fear to people. The intimidations can be viewed as dangerous in that, communities are still aware of the violations they witnessed in 2008 and any stark reminder to them that such misfortune will befall them is scary resulting in many of them resorting to shy away from democratic processes. It should also be noted that it is also difficult to prove such charge against someone in court or at a police post, thus it has been difficult for victims to report such cases and the perpetrators are getting away with it. Another emerging trend is that the institution of traditional leadership is also at the forefront of instigating politically motivated violations in communities. The chiefs and headmen have been at the forefront of denying fellow villagers food aid and also intimidating them to support ZANU PF. War veterans continue to be mentioned in a number of violations ranging from assault, intimidation and unfair distribution of food aid and agricultural inputs. For years, the war veterans have been at the forefront of unleashing terror and violence to purported enemies. The abuse of war veterans for selfish political ends is a matter that should be addressed before the country goes for another round of

elections.

It is now more than four years since the signing of the Global Political Agreement but little has been done in bringing to trial human rights violators. Less than 10% of all crimes committed have been brought before the courts to bring justice to thousands of people victimised. With the current call for the possibility of holding a constitutional referendum and national elections in 2013, it is disturbing that victims of political violence find themselves in a peculiar situation of being subjected to yet another round of elections with no guarantee of protection of the electorate. There is need for the politicians to guarantee protection of the electorate in a niche to make sure there is no repetition of the 2008 atrocities. It is Heal Zimbabwe's™ assertion that for survivors of political violence and their communities to freely participate in the coming elections, there is need to ensure that the perpetrators of political violence are prosecuted. Reports of human rights violations continue to trickle four years after the formation of the Organ on National Healing and JOMIC which were created to work on creating a peaceful environment.

From the report, it can be deduced that 85% of politically motivated human rights violators are men who are directly involved in committing the actual offence.



Below are some of the people who have been directly involved in human rights violations:

Names of Perpetrators	Position Held	Political Party	Province and District	Injustices Committed
Ticharima Margret	Soldier		Mutasa-Manicaland	Insult, intimidation, and torture
Joshua Kadungure, Gilbert Kadungure, Dennis Kadungure		ZANU-PF	Makoni-Manicaland	Arson and intimidation of MDC-T supporters
Soldiers			Makoni South-Manicaland	Harassment and intimidation of anti-ZANU PF supporters.
Honoured Ndawana, Joshua Chipedzi	War veterans	ZANU PF	Buhera Central-Manicaland	Assaulting MDC-T supporters, intimidating them and distributing food aid on partisanship basis.
Mr Tavengwa and unnamed ZANU PF councillors in the area	Former Councilor, sitting councillors	ZANU PF	Buhera Central-Manicaland	Distributing food aid on partisanship basis.
Morgan Makaza	War veteran	ZANU PF	Nyanga-Manicaland	Distributing food aid on partisanship basis. Intimidating and assaulting MDC-T supporters.
Mr Mupata and unidentified ZANU-PF supporters		ZANU PF	Nyanga-Manicaland	Distributing food aid on partisanship basis.
Joseph Chinotimba	Former District Coordinating Committee Chairman, war veteran	ZANU-PF	Buhera South-Manicaland	Denying MDC-T supporters access to food aid and disrupting MDC-T rallies and meetings.
E. Pfumvuti and unidentified ZANU PF councillors and police	Assistant Commissioner of police	ZANU PF	Mutoko-Mashonaland East	Intimidating MDC-T supporters and disrupting their rallies. Denying MDC-T supporters access to food aid.

Mr Chamva, unnamed war veterans and councillors	War veterans, councillors.	ZANU PF	Hwedza-Mashonaland East	Intimidation and harassment of MDC supporters, disrupting MDC-T rallies. Distributing food aid on partisan basis.
Sergeant Nyabadza	Aspiring ZANU-PF candidate and a member of the police	ZANU PF	Murehwa-Mashonaland East	Intimidating and harassing MDC-T supporters.
ZANU-PF supporters		ZANU PF	Mudzi-Mashonaland East	Murder of Cephas Magura an MDC-T supporter and assaulting MDC-T supporters.
Lovemore Chirapu		ZANU PF	Mudzi-Mashonaland East	Assaulting MDC supporters.
Mr Magodo	Police Inspector		Mudzi-Mashonaland East	Harassment of anti-ZANU PF supporters.
Unidentified members of the police	Members of the police		Bulawayo-Matabeleland	Intimidation and unlawful detention of MDC-T supporters.
Unnamed village heads	Traditional leaders	ZANU-PF	Gutu West-Masvingo	Distributing food aid on partisan basis.
Chief Mupata	Traditional leader		Gutu Central-Masvingo	Disrupting MDC-T rallies, intimidating anti- ZANU-PF supporters, unfair distributing food aid.
Unidentified members of the police, ZANU PF supporters	Members of the police	ZANU PF	Gutu North-Masvingo	Disrupting MDC-T rallies and intimidating MDC supporters.
Hilda Zvada, Bernard Masavele, Faustino Murambatsvina, Joseph Chimunda and Ester Bonzo	Political activists	ZANU-PF	Zaka West-Masvingo	Disrupting MDC-T rallies, intimidating MDC supporters.

Zakia Musengi, Harrison, Prosper Taoera, Unganai Makoni	Political Activists	ZANU PF	Zaka- Masvingo	Land seizure, arson, harassment, assault.
Mr Ganyata, Daniel Mativenga, Cephas Ganyata, unnamed members of the police	Political Activists, members of the police.	ZANU-PF	Zaka Central-Masvingo	Unfairly distributing food aid, intimidating anti-ZANU-PF supporters.
Mr Chakora, Mr Masese, John Chabu, Ossie Mashingaidze, unidentified ZANU PF youths	Political Activists, traditional leaders,	ZANU PF	Zaka Central-Masvingo	Intimidation and harassment of MDC supporters, arson.
Mr. Mada	War veteran	ZANU PF	Zaka North- Masvingo	Intimidation, assault
Junior Manyeruke, unidentified ZANU PF supporters	Senator, political activists	ZANU-PF	Muzarabani-Mashonaland Central	Intimidating MDC-T supporters, confiscating property and unfair distributing food aid on partisan basis.
Chief Kasekete	Chief	ZANU PF	Muzarabani-Mashonaland Central	Harassing and intimidating MDC supporters, distributing food aid on partisan basis.
Mr G.Bumhira, Mr Pfoto, Mr Faiton, Mr Isaac Mupeyami.	Traditional leaders, political activists, councillors.		Muzarabani-Mashonaland Central	Intimidating MDC-T supporters.
MP Mushowe	Member of Parliament	ZANU-PF	Muzarabani-Mashonaland Central	Intimidating MDC-T supporters and denying MDC-T supporters access to food aid.
E. Dzvova, Taurai Mucherengi, Mr Muswera.	Traditional leaders, political activists.	ZANU PF	Muzarabani-Mashonaland Central	Harassment and intimidation.
Chief Negomo and unnamed ZANU-PF youths	Traditional leader, political activists.	ZANU-PF	Mazowe-Mashonaland Central	Intimidating MDC-T supporters.

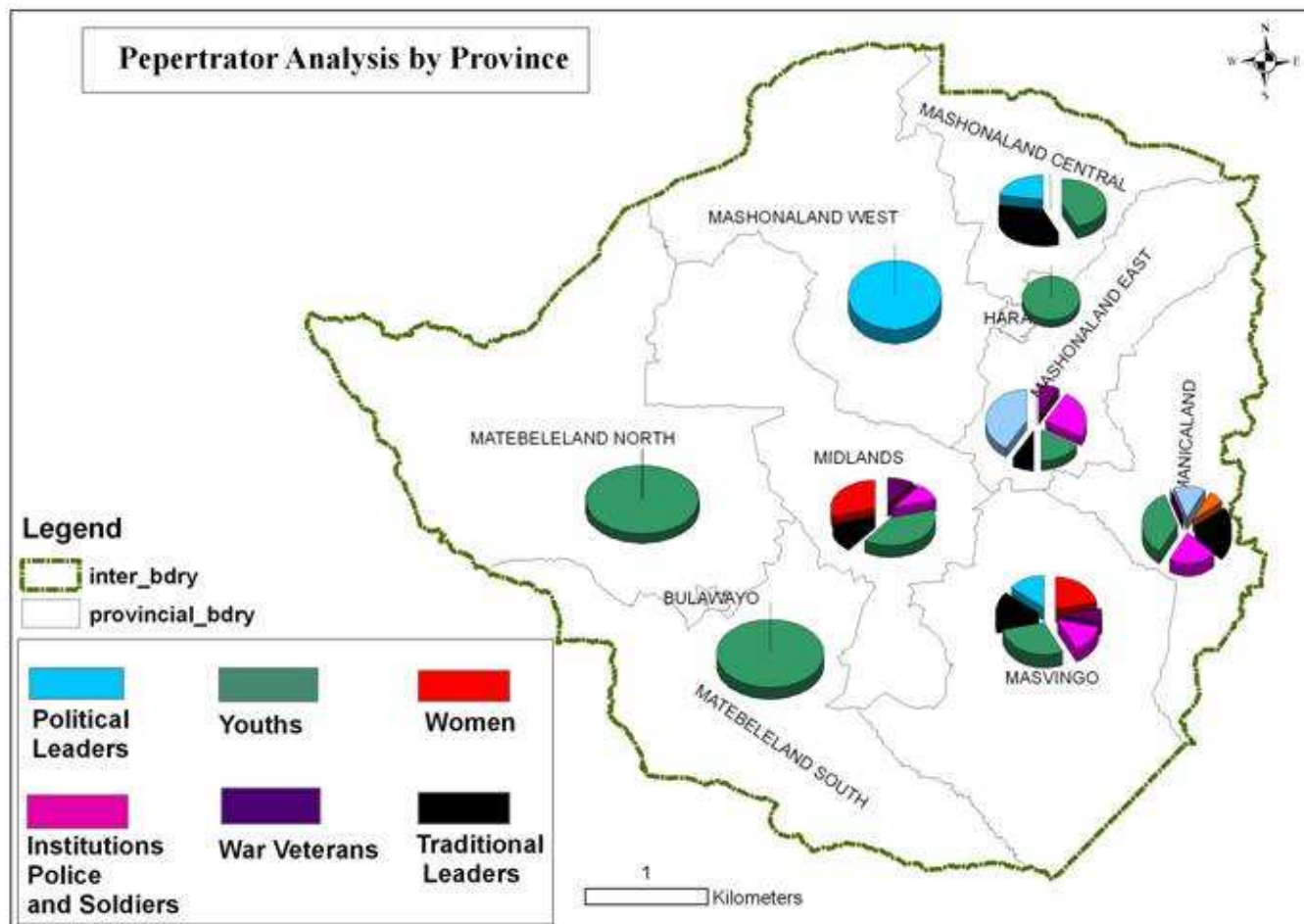
Unidentified ZANU-PF supporters	Political activists	ZANU PF	Chaona- Â Mashonaland Central	Intimidating MDC-T supporters.
Unnamed ZANU-PF members	Political activists	ZANU PF	Mt Darwin- Mashonaland central	Intimidating MDC-T supporters.
Mr Nembudziya, Mr Chakabveyo, Mrs Mugabe	Traditional leader, councillors	ZANU PF	Gokwe-Midlands	Intimidating and harassing MDC-T supporters, land seizure, unfair distribution of food aid and assaults.
Unidentified ZANU PF supporters	Political activists	ZANU PF	Sanyati-Midlands	Disruption of MDC-T rallies.
MP Â Severino Tall Chambati, unidentified MDC supporters	Members of Parliament, political activists	MDC T	Hurungwe- Mashonaland West	Intra party violence by MDC supporters, assault and disrupted their own rally
Owen Ncube, unnamed ZANU PF supporters, members of the police	Political activists, members of the police	ZANU PF	Kwekwe- Midlands	Intimidation, assault, unlawful detention of MDC supporters.
Unidentified ZANU PF supporters	Political activists	ZANU PF	Chitungwiza, Epworth, Mbare-Harare	Intimidation and assault. Disruption of political activities.

Perpetrator Analysis by Province

Province	Women	War veterans	Institutions: police & soldiers	Youths	Traditional leaders	Political leaders
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Manicaland	1 case	3 cases	3 cases	5 cases	-----	2 cases
Mashonaland East	-----	1 case	3 cases	2 cases	1 case	5 cases
Masvingo	3 case	1 case	2 cases	4 cases	2 cases	2 cases
Mashonaland Central	-----	-----	-----	4 cases	3 cases	2 cases
Mashonaland West	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	1
Midlands	1 case	-----	1 case	4 cases	1 case	3 cases
Matabeleland	-----	-----	1 case	-----	-----	-----

Harare	-----	-----	-----	1 case	-----	-----
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Mission: To rebuild national cohesion through national tolerance and peaceful coexistence in local communities

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