

## Project Mudawarima

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### Experience and knowledge of anti-doping programmes amongst Athlete Support Personnel in Zimbabwe

ASP play a key role in doping, but there is a lack of evidence on their knowledge of and experience in anti-doping in Africa. This study will be key to elucidating the awareness needs of ASP in doping. Besides, this study will provide a framework for doping prevention programmes needs among ASP in Zimbabwe as well as other African countries which share similar characteristics. Anti-doping educational programs for ASP which cater to low resourced countries can then be developed.

There is a failure to use evidence for research to make informed decisions across all decision-makers in doping, that includes ASP, National Sports Associations, athletes and the government. A knowledge - to - action cycle will be implemented. Dissemination of the results of the study will be done with all the stakeholders through workshops. Gaps in implementing the findings of the research will be elicited. Action through policies will be implemented through national sports bodies and Zimbabwe Olympic Committee (ZOC) to make it a prerequisite for every ASP to know about doping before working with athletes.

The researcher aims to establish the ASP's levels of experience of anti-doping programmes. This baseline demographic data will help to establish if the experience is a factor in the knowledge of doping and its anti-doping programmes.

A cross-sectional survey will be done using a modified questionnaire adapted from the World Anti-Doping Code and studies by (Barghi et al., 2015) and (Mazanov et al., 2014). A mixture of survey monkey and hard copy questionnaires will be used to cater for those without access to the internet. All ASP affiliated with national sports associations registered with the ZOC will be asked to participate in the study; this is to encompass all the sport disciplines in Zimbabwe.