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## **Editorial**

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**Journal of Social Development in Africa  
School of Social Work (Midlands State University)  
Private Bag 66022, Kopje, Harare, Zimbabwe  
Editor-in-Chief  
Victor N. Muzvidziwa**

### **SPECIAL ISSUE ON SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL PROTECTION IN HONOUR OF PROFESSOR KASEKE**

This special issue brings together eight articles focusing on social protection and social security in Sub Saharan Africa. The papers are a tribute and a celebration of the life of the renowned, humble African intellectual giant Professor Edwell Kaseke affectionately referred to as Eddie by colleagues. Eddie passed away on 24 August 2017. I had known Eddie for close to four decades dating back to 1980. Eddie was a trusted friend, a committed colleague, a mentor, an optimistic and an Africanist scholar who in the course of his academic life nurtured a brigade of Africanist scholars that are impacting on the development of social work and social planning professions in the sub Saharan region and beyond. This special issue explores topics at the heart of Eddie namely social protection and social security. Eddie promoted the growth of social work, social planning, social policy, social security, and social development to higher levels. Eddie was a very passionate and committed social work teacher and scholar. Eddie belongs to a rare pedigree of scholars who contributed immensely to the growth of Africanist social work scholarship.

The first article by Ndangwa Noyoo presents a detailed account of the life and work of Professor Kaseke. In Professor Kaseke we had a really champion of African Scholarship. To Noyoo Prof Kaseke

“had used his intellectual prowess to build, empower and groom others”. The second article by Rodrick Mupedziswa focuses on Zimbabwe's social protection for the poor with special reference to a strong emphasis on lessons to be learnt from experiences from the sub Saharan region. Mupedziswa argues that while post 1980 independent Zimbabwe sought to promote a social protection system rooted on principles of social justice and equality of opportunity, the country's social protection programmes have fared very badly.

Chereni's article focuses on the narratives of three Zimbabwean migrants in Johannesburg. The article demonstrates the significance of informal social protection for migrants and their families. It is argued that informal social protection at times act in ways that enable the individual to navigate a very hostile environment such as Johannesburg. Informal social protection can function as an adaptation strategy in the case of migrant communities. The fourth article by Mpedi focuses on social protection in Southern Africa. Mpedi observed that generally the lack of an Africanist social protection scholarship leads to policies and practices that are devoid of context, hence the need to be responsive to the needs and challenges facing African communities. Jotham Dhemba further examines the nature and status of social protection in Southern Africa using four case studies. The four case studies are Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Dhemba argues for the provision of inclusive social protection that ensures the inclusion of the poor and vulnerable groups.

The sixth article by Edmos Mtetwa examines the institutional mechanisms needed to promote rural social security programmes in Zimbabwe. Mtetwa stresses the importance of social security when it comes to the welfare needs of rural communities. Social security in rural Zimbabwe is greatly affected by natural hazards such as droughts and floods. The article co-authored by Nkosiyazi

Dube and the late Prof Kaseke focuses on informal social security as a means of providing social protection. The focus is on Rotating Savings and Credit Associations (ROSCAs) referred to as stokvels in South Africa. Stokvels are a major form of social protection for the poor in the absence of an integrated effective social security system. There is a strong lobby that wants stokvels to be regulated and integrated with formal institutions. The last article by Victor Chikadzi and Ajwang Warriá argues for the adoption of the social enterprise model in order to tackle issues of social development more effectively. If adopted on a wide scale social enterprises can result in entrepreneurship that has a collective and redistributive focus rather than the pursuit of profit solely for the benefit of shareholders. Social enterprises can be an effective tool for fighting growing inequalities and poverty. Social enterprises can also be effective tools for the rise of a just and equitable society. For Victor Chikadzi and Ajwang Warriá scholars like Professor Kaseke sought for the pursuit of social planning and social development Africanist models that embraced the simultaneous pursuit of social and economic development.