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**WOMEN AND CLIMATE CHANGE. ARE RURAL WOMEN COPING? A
CASE STUDY OF WARD 16 AND 17, NKAYI DISTRICT**

BY

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ABSTRACT

This study provides an analysis of how climate change is impacting on the livelihoods of the rural women of Nkayi. The exploration of their everyday responsibilities and experiences were conducted so as to have an in depth understanding of the rural women's experiences in the face of climate change. The coping and adaptation mechanism of women including the challenges that they face are identified and analyzed. Data presented in this study was collected through the administration of face to face interview of key informants from NGOs, various government officials and local leader. Questionnaires and Focus group discussions were conducted on local women of ward 16 and 17. Results revealed that the natural resources that rural women depend on for their livelihoods are highly affected by the effects of climate change. Women encounter several challenges as a result of deteriorating resources. The study recommends that the government and other NGOs should empower women through education, provision of other additional water sources and other alternative sources of energy such as biofuels.

Key words; Climate change Livelihoods Women