



HUMANITARIAN SERVICES AND DIAKONIA



April 2024 Articles (Actions of Hope)

BREAKING SOCIAL DIVIDES THROUGH SPORTS FOR PEACE INITIATIVES.

On the 4 April 2024 the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) facilitated a Sports for Peace Netball and Soccer Tournament in Chipinge district in Ward 16. The tournament created a platform for the ZCC to promote peace and foster social cohesion among communities from Wards 16, 5, and 20. During the opening ceremony the quest of honor Reverend Mpunza from the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe (UCCZ) emphasized the important role sports play in building relationships and bridging social divides. The Sport for Peace tournament, which featured both netball and soccer matches, provided an avenue for individuals from different wards to interact, compete, and engage in friendly sportsmanship. By bringing together individuals from various wards, the tournament broke down communication barriers, fostered dialogue, and strengthened social bonds.



The netball and soccer teams from the three different wards participating in the Sports for Peace tournament in Chipinge district.

Follow US



@zccinzim

#zcc@60

RUNYARARO PARTNER MONITORING AND SUPPORT VISIT

In April the Australian Embassy and Act for Peace, toured Runyararo settlement to witness the work being done by their partner ZCC in collaboration with Government of Zimbabwe under the Strengthening Protection and Resilience project. Through the generous support of the Australian Government and Australian churches, the program is helping to improve lives among communities in and around the Runyararo settlement in ward 7 Chimanimani through the provision of clean and safe water, hygiene information, strengthening protection and catalyzing small businesses to improve incomes. Government established the Runyararo settlement to accommodate households displaced by Cyclone IDAI in Chimanimani district. So far more than 400 households have been resettled in the area.



Australian Embassy, ACT for Peace and ZCC Humanitarian Services and Diakonia Director, ZCC staff, Government stakeholders and community members pose in front of the recently completed Solar Powered Piped Water Scheme.

PROVIDING ECUMENICAL REINTEGRATION AND ACCOMPANIMENT SERVICES FOR RETURNEES

On the 13th of April 2024, the UK Home Office and ZCC conducted a joint monitoring and client support visits. During the visit the delegation assessed progress made to date in the construction of the Reintegration shelter Centre that is earmarked to provide accommodation for returnees. The delegation also provided conducted support visits to clients who had been assisted to setup small business enterprises such as poultry, apiculture, horticulture, and small livestock



Follow US





@zccinzim
#zcc@60



The ZCC, UK Home Office, and the Building Contractor assessing progress made in constructing the reintegration shelter conducting a site assessment.



The ZCC Secretary General chats with and UK Home Office, assessing progress made at the during a visit to a client who is running an apiculture project enterprise in Mbondoro

THE ZCC PARTICIPANTS IN THE MULTI STAKEHOLDER SMART ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

On the 11th of April the ZCC participated in a 3-day Smart Advocacy workshop held at Holiday Inn, Harare. This workshop was attended by stakeholders focusing on family planning and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights. The stakeholders present included MoHCC, Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council, Population Services Zimbabwe, Youth and Advocate Zimbabwe, amongst others. During the workshop the ZCC was able to contribute towards strengthening the advocacy capacity of FP2030 focal points and country partners to facilitate the implementation of FP2030 commitments. The FP2030 commitments are a valuable tool for Governments, CSOs, and donors to engage in critical work to improve family planning / reproductive health in their respective countries.



Follow US

@zccinzim

#zcc@60



The various stakeholders who participated in a 3-day Smart Advocacy workshop held at Holiday Inn, Harare.

THE ZCC JOINS OTHER LOCAL PARTNERS IN LAUNCHING THE AKWANDE-TUVULE DEVELOPMENT HUB

On the 9th of April the Zimbabwe Council of Churches participated in the Akwande-Tuvule Development Hub partners workshop in Harare which was hosted by Save the Children Zimbabwe. The Akwande-Tuvule Development Hub, which comprises of 20 local & national organizations, was recently launched by Save the Children in Zimbabwe as part of its localization agenda. The localization agenda aims to shift power to local partners, children and communities. . During the workshop, the ZCC and 20 other local partners shared on how their work is positively changing the lives of children. Furthermore, the workshop created a platform for Save the Children and local partners to collaboratively strategize on the future of the development hub. The Akwande-Tuvule Development Hub, which comprises of 20 local & national organizations, was recently launched by Save the Children in Zimbabwe as part of its localization agenda. The localization agenda aims to shift power to local partners, children and communities.



The ZCC HSD Director describing the work of the Development Hub to International partners during the partner exhibitions.



Follow US



@zccinzim

#zcc@60

THE ZCC RAISES AWARENESS ON PROPER HEALTH AND HYGIENE PRACTICES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CHOLERA.

In April the, ZCC with support from the Ministry of Hhealth and Child care (MOHCC) continued to raise awareness among communities and interfaith leaders on cholera prevention through capacity-building workshops and awareness campaigns in Gwanda, Chitungwiza and Epworth. In addition, the ZCC has capacitated 120 health care workers in new hotspot areas on case management. The ZCC also distributed NFIs (soap) during road shows to encourage handwashing. These efforts are expected to complement government efforts towards reducing the morbidity and mortality associated with the Cholera epidemic in Zimbabwe.



Communities and Children receiving information on safe hygiene practices to prevent cholera during road shows.



Inter faith leaders and health care workers capacitated on proper health and hygiene practices as well as case management.



Follow US

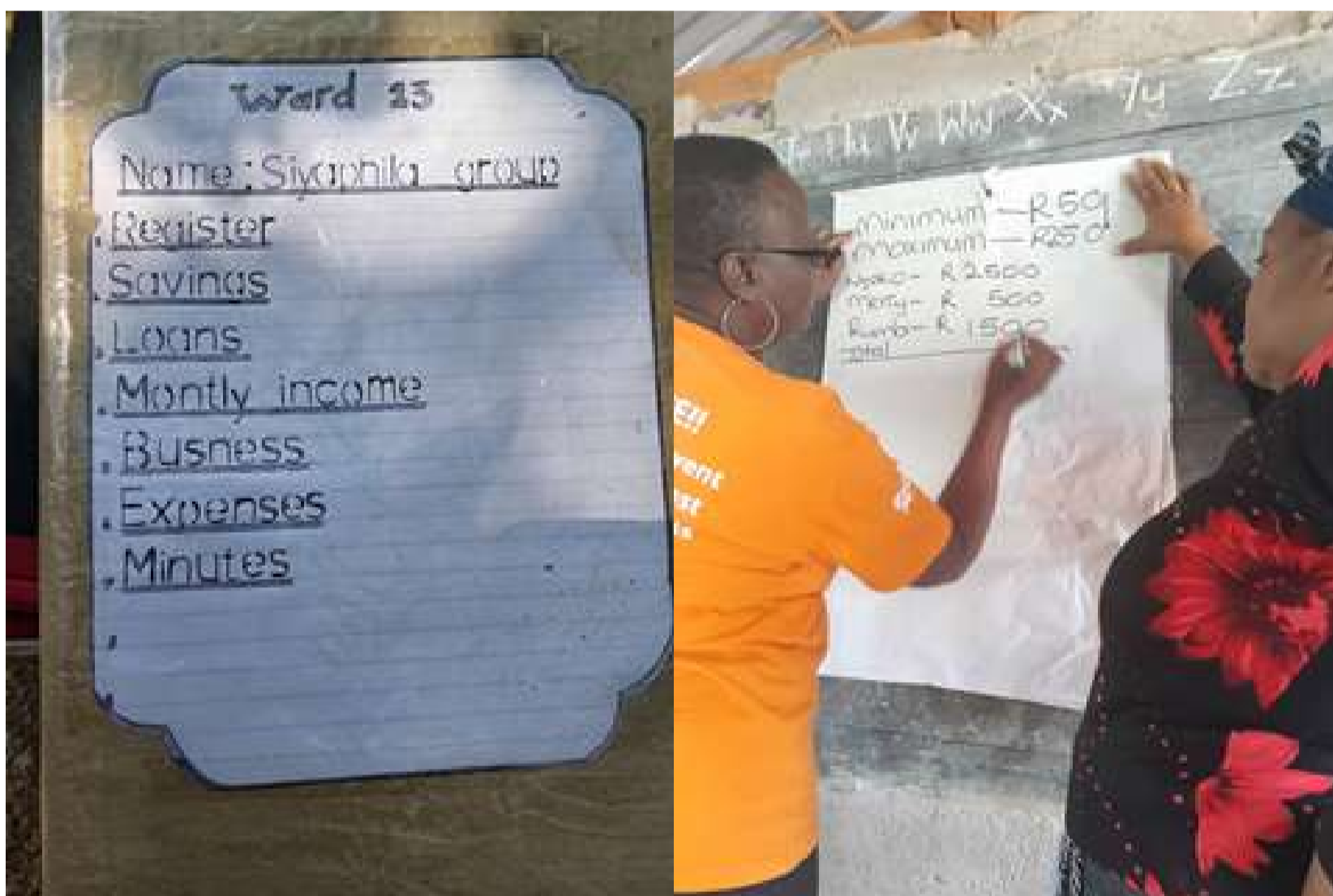


@zccinzim

#zcc@60

PROMOTING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH DIVERSIFIED LIVELIHOODS

The Zimbabwe Council of Churches with support from the MWACSMED conducted Internal lending and savings schemes (ISALs) trainings and provided technical support to 45 ISAL groups in Mwenezi, Gwanda and Zvishavane. The ISALs groups were capacitated on leadership and elections, development of policies and rules, development of association constitution, first share purchase/savings meeting, first loan disbursement and record-keeping among other concepts. The ISALs groups had an opportunity to share the positive strides and achievements they had achieved through the support received for the last 3 years from the ZCC and MWACSMED. ISALs have greatly improved the lives of vulnerable farmers through providing access to financial services within their community and to support small income generating businesses.



The MWACSMED assisting farmers to calculate the share outs per farmer at Mangondi center in Mwenezi.



ISAL groups undergoing refresher trainings in Zvishavane district

Follow US

@zccinzim

#zcc@60

THE ZCC PARTICIPATES IN THE FIRST QUARTER GBV COORDINATION MEETING.

In April the ZCC participated in the GBV coordination first quarter meeting organized by the Ministry of Women Affairs Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development in Zvishavane district. The meeting was attended by ZRP VFU, WOMANDLA, The Bethany project, AWEM, Social Development, Education and Ministry of Youth. During the meeting the various stakeholders had the opportunity to share their Gender Based Violence programs, successes, challenges, recommendations and plans for the 16 days of activism. The coordination meeting created a platform for partners advocating for gender equality and empowerment to strategize and strengthen partnerships towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5 which focuses on achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls.



PROMOTING IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY THROUGH POST-HARVEST HANDLING AND MARKET LINKAGES CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS.



The Agritex AEO facilitating training exercise in Gwanda district on post-harvest handling.

Follow US

@zccinzim
#zcc@60

SUPPORTING IMPROVED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT IN COMMUNITIES.

The ZCC with support from the Chimanimani District Civil Protection Unit conducted a community based community-Based disaster risk mapping exercise in Runyararo, Ward 7. A total of 209 members of the community participated in the processes in hazard identification, risk analysis, and plan development exercise. The development of the disaster risk reduction plan is expected to improve disaster risk reduction and management in the community. The plan will also improve anticipatory actions in the face of disasters thus reducing disaster losses.



Community members participating in disaster risk mapping exercise.

THE ZCC CONDUCTS SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENTS IN BIKITA AND GUTU

On the 16th to 20th of April the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) with support from the Canadian Food Grains Bank (CFGB) and United Church of Canada (UCC) conducted a situational assessment in Gutu and Bikita districts in an effort to identify existing community needs and vulnerabilities as well as the expected mitigatory and adaptive actions. This situational assessment is expected to inform future programming in the districts and ensure that all response efforts directly address existing community needs such as drought and hunger.



The ZCC, Government stakeholders and University research specialist conduct focus groups discussions FGDs in Bikita and Gutu district during the situational assessment exercise.

Follow US



@zccinzim

#zcc@60